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Porthcawl goes the extra mile to mark Samtampa disaster



Members of the Porthcawl Shout Forum cleaning up the memorial grave in Porthcawl Cemetery.

PEOPLE in Porthcawl have organised a number of events and exhibitions to mark the 70th anniversary of the loss of the Liberty ship SS *Samtampa*, and the Mumbles lifeboat, *Edward Prince of Wales*.

A total of 47 seamen died in the tragedy.

This Saturday, April 22, a memorial service for those lost will take place in All Saints Church, Porthcawl. (Details of the service, and an account of the disaster, can be found on page 6.)

In addition, Porthcawl Shout Forum is marking 70 years since the disaster with a commemorative exhibition and presentation on May 3 at the Senedd, Cardiff Bay, between 11.45am and 2.30pm.

Porthcawl Shout's patron, Carwyn Jones AM, will introduce the event.

Schools from Middlesbrough, Mumbles and Porthcawl will take part, together

with Bridgend College students and a variety of community groups.

The bilingual exhibition in The Senedd will run for an extended period (April 24 to May 7) for those unable to get to the May 3 event.

The exhibition will then move to the Waterfront Museum in Swansea, where it will run from May 10 to June 21.

Gary Victor, the chair of Porthcawl Shout Forum, added that in October or November, a new memorial to the disaster, to be sited at the proposed Harbourside development at Cosy Corner, should be unveiled.

It has been funded by

the Heritage Lottery Fund, Porthcawl Town Council and Dr G Clark, MD

With the 70th anniversary in mind, members of Porthcawl Shout have been cleaning the *Samtampa* memorial grave in Porthcawl Cemetery. Further restoration work has been done by Belview Monumental Masons.

The story of that grave is a poignant one in itself. The majority of the Middlesbrough-based *Samtampa* crew were taken home for burial.

However, 12 could not be identified, and they are buried in Porthcawl.

CONTINUED
ON PAGE 3

'Yobbish' golf club members blasted after funeral service

MOURNERS at a recent committal at Margam Crematorium described the behaviour of members of the Royal Porthcawl Golf Club (RPGC), who were there to attend another service, as "yobbish".

The club confirmed that it was responding to a letter of complaint from a woman who had attended a funeral at the crematorium.

That woman, a close relative of the deceased, contacted The GEM with a copy of her letter to the club's secretary, Michael Newland, detailing her complaint and calling on the club to take action.

The woman, who does not wish to be named, detailed what she, and others, witnessed: "The funeral was scheduled for 1.30pm and when our hearse and cars drew up a couple of minutes before, my family and I were asked to stay in the car."

CONTINUED
ON PAGE 3

GEM REPORT
by ANDY
JOHNSTONE

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OUTSTANDING MONOCHROME SET AT LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB CONTEST

THE Pyle & Porthcawl Photographic Society recently held its annual Alan Thomas Memorial competition where each member can enter up to four images (digital or print) but in mono only.

The winner was the member with the highest total from their two highest-scoring entries and it was extremely close, with a triple tie for first place between David Jones, Patricia Kendrick and Richard Jenkins.

The third-highest scoring image was

included as a tie break, and David won by just one point with Patricia in second place and Richard in third.

Dennis Russ was the judge and as usual, his unique humour and personality made it a very entertaining evening.

Our programme is available at www.pyle-porthcawl-ps.co.uk

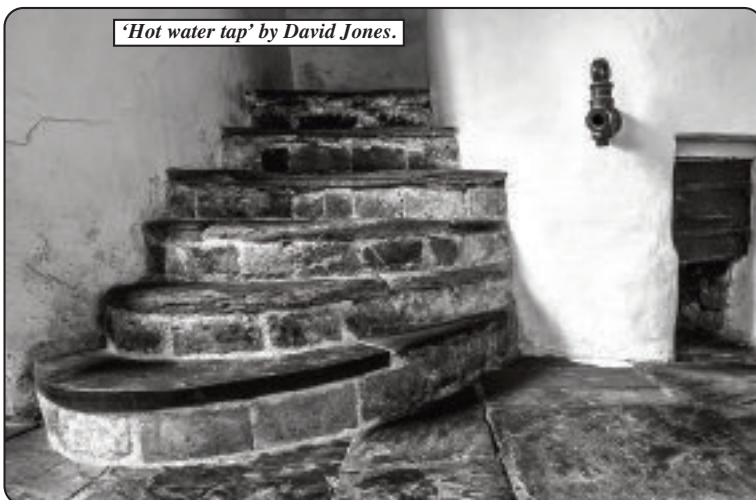
We welcome new members of all ages and skill levels, so if you have an interest in photography, join us on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm at St Clare's School, Newton, Porthcawl.

GB



'Evening Stroll' by David Morgan.

'Locker Room' by Martin Derbyshire.



'Hot water tap' by David Jones.



'Sailing Ship in Window' by Richard Jenkins.



ABOVE: 'From Trunk to Twig' by Patricia Kendrick.



David Jones (right) receives the trophy from judge Dennis Russ.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Zumba classes

LIKE to lose a few pounds? Like to feel a bit fitter? Want to meet some new friends? Zumba classes are running on Thursdays from April 27, from 10am to 11am at KPC Youth, Off Pyle Inn Way, Pyle CF33 6AB (next to Pil Prim ary School).

All ages/abilities welcome, for more information, call 01656 749219 kpcyouth@hotmail.com.

Walking Rugby

ON Thursday, April 27 at 9.30am, a walking rugby session takes place at KPC Youth and Community, off Pyle Inn Way, Pyle; suitable for all ages/ability, mixed male and female teams.

Cost £1.50 per session with tea/coffee. For 40 minutes of non-contact fun (with breaks!), contact 01656 749219 – or just come along.

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Porthcawl Art Society opens its doors again



PORTHCAWL Art Society is open again after work was carried out in the building. The Mayor and Mayoress of Bridgend County Borough Council opened the latest exhibition. The photograph shows chair Margaret Williams shaking hands with Coun Reg Jenkins. The art gallery is open most days from 11am to 4pm and is well worth a visit.
ROBERT TAYLOR

Golf club members at funeral are blasted as 'yobbish'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The woman continued: "We didn't think anything was amiss; the fact that we didn't recognise any of the people standing outside the entrance was we thought, due to the previous funeral running a little late."

She said that after a short while, the family's funeral director led them into Margam and the committal service took place. She continued: "We found out afterwards the reason for the delay. It was because of

members of RPGC - they were identified by their club ties - insisted on standing near the entrance, making a lot of noise and refusing to move away."

The mourner was told that the RPGC service was not due to begin until 2pm.

She said: "The funeral they were attending wasn't due to start until 2pm, so why they were milling about before and blocking the entrance is beyond belief."

A number of people, including other mourners, a vicar and a funeral director, were reported to have asked the golf club party to move away and to "have some respect".

"Despite this, the RPGC party continued with their yobbish behaviour, and a vicar said that they had 'never encountered such behaviour at a funeral'."

The female mourner added: "Thankfully we'd had a church service at 12.15pm in the village where our relative had lived, which had been perfect."

"But this incident has had a negative impact on our family and friends, most cannot believe what they witnessed."

She continued: "I was upset on learning what happened, but now I am absolutely furious."

"I know not every club tie wearing member was involved but, on the whole, most 'culprits' were wearing them."

The GEM contacted Mr Newland of RPGC for comment.

He replied: "I can confirm that I have received a letter from a woman whose [close relative's] funeral took place at Margam Crematorium immediately before the funeral of a member of Royal Porthcawl Golf Club."

"I am replying directly to that letter."

The club, which received its 'Royal' prefix in 1909, hosted the 2014 Senior Open Championship and will again in July.

Oldcastle Primary hopes to bag a share of supermarket funding



Oldcastle Primary School reception pupils (left to right): Lewis, Rosie, Ella, Sion, Laila, Chase, Emily, Freya, Rowena, Maisie and Dion.

OLDCASTLE Primary School has been shortlisted to receive a cash boost from the Tesco 'Bags of Help' initiative, where customers are encouraged to vote using the token given to them at the checkout every time they shop in a Tesco store.

Oldcastle Primary School is hoping to achieve funding to further develop the use of a cob oven and surrounding garden area at the school. The funding would also be used to fund resources that will allow children to prepare and cook food in the oven, and ultimately learn more about food. The cob oven allows children to bake bread, pizzas, meats and vegetables.

Tesco has teamed up with Groundwork to launch the monthly

funding scheme, which sees grants raised from the 5p carrier-bag tax awarded to local outdoor community projects.

Headteacher Jeremy Malessa-Thompson said: "We would welcome support from all members of the community to help us achieve our project, so please look out for the 'Bags of Help' voting station when you are next in a Tesco store."

"Tesco's Bags of Help project has already delivered more than £24 million to 2,400 projects up and down the UK, and we're hoping Oldcastle Primary School becomes another great project that will benefit our children."

At the end of the month, all votes are counted and the three projects will learn who has been successful with the bidding process.

Porthcawl goes the extra mile to mark disaster

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Two years later, on April 23, 1949 the present memorial mass grave was unveiled to an enormous attendance of town residents and official representatives at Porthcawl Cemetery and it resulted in this letter of gratitude.

"I would like the good people of Porthcawl and district to know how much their tributes and great kindness is appreciated by those who have lost their loved ones in the great tragedy."

So wrote Mrs K Davidson from Whithy, Yorkshire, in a letter to the editor of the Porthcawl Guardian

newspaper.

Not only had she lost her 24-year-old son Lonsdale Davidson, who was an Able Seaman on the *Samtampa*, but he was one of the 12 crew that could not be identified and taken home.

Mrs Davidson helped unveil the 12ft x 7ft marble memorial, funded by public subscription, and the dedication service was carried out by the Rector to the Parish, Reverend William Roach.

Sadly, the large white marble anchor was stolen in 2000 and has never been recovered, it was later replaced with a fibreglass replica.

TV producers hoping to hit the Hinterland heights by filming in Pencoed

WORK is under way on *Un Bore Mercher/Keeping Faith*, a new eight-part thriller made by Vox Pictures for S4C and BBC Wales.

Set and shot entirely in Wales (including Pencoed and the Vale) and part-funded through the Welsh Government's Media Investment Budget, which is advised by Pinewood Pictures, the series has been jointly commissioned by S4C and BBC Wales.

The series will film back to back in English and Welsh in the same way as the successful *Y Gwyll/Hinterland*.

The Welsh Government Economy Secretary Ken Skates said: "This is another great project that is not only being filmed in Wales but also set in Wales."

"It will provide great opportunities for Welsh crews, facilities companies and local suppliers and provide a significant boost to local economies."

This latest drama from Vox Pictures is co-written by Matthew Hall (*New Street Law*, *Blue Murder*) and adapted into Welsh by Anwen Huws (*Gwaith*

Cartref, Pobol y Cwm). It stars Eve Myles (*Torchwood*, *Broadchurch* and *Victoria*) as the lead character Faith.

The series tells the story of lawyer, wife and mother Faith (Myles) as she fights to find the truth behind the sudden disappearance of her husband.

She comes to discover that her beautiful, idyllic home town in west Wales harbours many dark secrets that threaten the lives of Faith and her family.

The director is Pip Broughton (*Under Milk Wood* and *Aberfan*, *The Green Hollow*) who is co-producing with Nora Ostler (*Gwaith Cartref, Y Gwyll/Hinterland*) for Vox Pictures. Executive producers are Gwawr Martha Lloyd (S4C) Maggie Russell (BBC Wales) and Adrian Bate for Vox Pictures.

Filmed on location in the Vale of Glamorgan, Carmarthenshire,

Laugharne and in Pencoed studios, the series will premiere this autumn in Welsh as *Un Bore Mercher* on S4C followed by the English language version, *Keeping Faith* on BBC One Wales early next year.

Bryngarw Park theatre summer programme

BRYNGARW Country Park in Brynmenyn, near Bridgend, is set to stage six outdoor theatre events this summer.

The first one will be Immersion Theatre's production of *The Wind in the Willows* at 5.30pm on Monday, July 24.

For further information, contact Toni Cosson on 01656 725975 or email toni.cosson@awen-wales.com.

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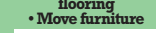
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Celebrations for Sandville's 26th birthday

IT was a day of celebration at the Sandville Self Help Centre recently, when it celebrated its 26th anniversary.

Originally called Pen-y-Mynydd House, the building was bought by the Sandville Foundation, and renamed as Sandville Court in 1983.

The name embodies the two locations previously associated with the Foundation: the Sandville Hotel in Porthcawl and Court Colman in Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend.

The refurbishment of the original building was carried out by a team of volunteers under the project management of the late Bob 'The Gas' Roberts. Bob was also a volunteer and plumber.

Keith Mort of KNM Windows was the upvc windows man and among other donations, provided the conservatory at the front of the house.

Mike 'Spike' Parsons, electrician, did all the electrical installation work and Jeff Jones, carpenter, did all the wood work in the property, while Dave King, Jeff Tombs and other firemen who are no longer with us, were responsible for providing and installing all the fire and security equipment and doing up the 'Firemen's Room'.

Unfortunately, neither Keith Mort or Dave King were able to attend the 26th anniversary celebrations due other commitments, but Mike 'Spike' Parsons, Jeff Jones and Jeff Tombs were on hand to open the new engraved upvc front door (donated by Keith Mort) and to cut the celebration cake.

After Sister Gwyneth Poacher had lit the candles, the lads made short work of the cake cutting. Everyone received a taster and the event proceeded for the rest of the afternoon with entertainment from up and coming singing star Rebecca Nia Thomas.

With a selection of oldies, Rebecca had everyone glued to their seats and crying their eyes out with her last number 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow'.

The event was recorded for TV by Carwyn Evans, head of news and sport at BAY TV Swansea and broadcast on a number of channels over the following days.

Carwyn interviewed Glenys and Ron Watts, both in their 90s and relations of Gwyneth's who had been attending the Sandville, since day one as well as Sultan who has been a regular and loyal student at the centre for the last two years.

All in all, a fabulous day that would be remembered by all who attended for a very long time to come.



ABOVE: Rebecca Nia Thomas.

BELOW: The birthday cake.



ABOVE: The cutting of the cake.



Report and photographs
by KEITH E MORGAN.

LOCAL CHURCHES OBSERVE PALM SUNDAY

TWO local parish churches have marked Palm Sunday.

At St Theodore's Church, Kenfig Hill, the congregation, led by Father Jonathan Durley, left the confines of the building for a service in the church garden, while at St David's, Nottage, where the service was conducted by Father Keith Andrews of Ogmore Vale, a donkey was the star attraction for the little ones!



Gathering at Nottage for Palm Sunday.

Photographs by Keith E Morgan.



Taking advantage of the sunshine at St Theodore's, Kenfig Hill.



Man jailed for affray outside a Porthcawl primary school

AN alcoholic who alarmed people by his behaviour outside a Porthcawl school shortly before children were due to leave has been jailed for four months at Cardiff Crown Court.

Delme Thomas (47) of Suffolk Place, Porthcawl, pleaded guilty to a charge of affray.

Prosecutor Gareth

by AJ
SICLUNA

James said that on the afternoon of February 27 Thomas was seen outside Nottage Primary School. "He was shouting, ranting and raving and waving something in his hand."

Mr James said Thomas had convictions for 131 offences, 75 of which were for theft.

His solicitor Cora Sorensen said: "In the

past he has been addicted to heroin and currently to alcohol and he has sometimes been homeless.

"He has a severe liver problem and frankly he is in dire straits.

"Sadly, he is often seen clutching a bottle of vodka."

Judge Tom Crowther QC said: "The incident must have caused parents and others real concern.

"You are now paying the price for your addiction."

MP discusses the future with local employers



OGMORE MP Chris Elmore visited Rockwool for a tour of its facility just outside Heol-y-Cyw in Bridgend.

The MP met to discuss the future of the business following last

year's referendum to leave the European Union. He met UK-based managing director, Rory Moss and head of public affairs, Ólöf Jónsdóttir.

Mr Elmore said: "It's a huge positive to have an renowned company like Rockwool in the area and I'm delighted

that they're committed to the Heol-y-Cyw site.

"Rory and Ólöf have clear plans for the future and, all going well in the international market, Rockwool will have a long and prosperous future here."

The company, headquartered in Denmark, has been in the area since 1979 and provides insulation across the UK and beyond.

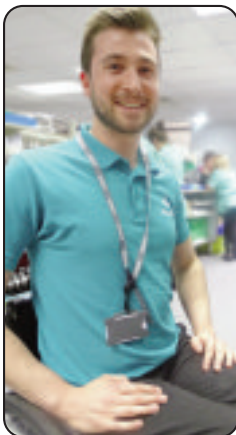
Henry's back at work following serious fall

TRAINEE pharmacy technician, Henry House, had not long started work with Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board when he was involved in a catastrophic accident.

Henry, from Gower, was left with lower limb paralysis and is paraplegic as a result of a fall in January 2015.

Surgeons at Morriston Hospital, where Henry worked, saved his life. Henry's job was kept open while he recovered and now his pharmacy colleagues are supporting him as he rebuilds his life.

This involved helping Henry fundraise as he prepares take part in his first charity challenge since the accident – an international endurance event taking place next month.



Poet's new book (and film) takes a close look at home



Robert Minihinnick.

PORTHCRAWL poet Robert Minihinnick launches his latest book later this month – a collection of poems that are very local in flavour.

The collection, entitled *Diary of the Last Man*, will be launched on Wednesday, April 26, at 7.30pm in the Stage Door, the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl.

On the launch night, a film of the same name – an elegiac look at the local coastline – will also be shown.

Created by Park6 Productions, the film looks at the coast between the mouths of the Ogmere and Cynffig Rivers, and the author features prominently in the film.

Diary of the Last Man comes with a recommendation from Poet Laureate, Carol Ann Duffy.

Both the 88-page book, published by Carcanet, and the 35-minute film contain writing inspired by walks undertaken by Mr Minihinnick between the mouths of the rivers Cynffig and Ogwr.

Mr Minihinnick says of

Diary of the Last Man: "It's an ambitious book, containing new poems, plus versions of the Welsh, Arabic and Turkish.

"The title section is an evocation of climate change, revealing both humour and loss.

"It's a musical book, full of songs and suites. These include 'Suite for Children's Voices and Moog Theremin', and Peter Morgan will play this live.

"Both book and film are very much Porthcawl-based. The film especially looks gorgeous, being filmed on some of the hottest days the resort has experienced."

Mr Minihinnick will be joined by guest performers. *Diary of the Last Man* will be available for sale at £9.99 on the night, and then available from bookshops, including SUSSED in Porthcawl.

The evening will be introduced by Cary Archard, founder of Seren Books.

Further details of the launch can be obtained from: 01656 773627.

Lexi entertains audience at Civic Charity Appeal

AN enjoyable evening was held at the Heronston Hotel, Bridgend with the Bridgend County Civic Charity Appeal in the company of Ahnuh Valentine (a talented, successful local girl known as Lexi Richmond) who entertained to a very high standard, singing ballads, opera, well known songs and 'Calon Lan' and some songs written and composed by herself.

The chairman of the civic charity Coun Marlene Thomas gave a warm welcome to the small group of faithful followers to the event and invited each representative from the chosen charities for 2016-2017 to speak in turn.

The Mayor of the County Borough of Bridgend, Coun Reg Jenkins thanked everyone for attending, especially Dr Clare Parker from the renal department at the Princess of Wales Hospital; Jane Quesle – Crossroads Care; and Dr Sylvia

Fowler, Heronsbridge School.

He also thanked the management and staff of the Heronston Hotel and Lexi Richmond for the special entertainment.

The next event is the annual charity gala on April 22 at the Heronston Great Western Hotel, Ewenny Road, Bridgend at 6.30pm for 7pm with Lee Jukes of Bridge FM as Master of Ceremonies and dancing to the Swing Machine Band.

Tickets £37.50 each, for an alcoholic fruit punch reception followed by a four course meal including table wine.

On April 28 the annual charity fundraising golf tournament at the Grove Golf Club, south Cornelly with tee-off time at 12pm until 2.30pm for a team of four persons at £125 per team, to include a meal after the game of golf.

For further information and tickets contact Mari Major 01656 651491.



Opening the book fair, which once again raised thousands of pounds for local charities, Borough Mayor Reg Jenkins and Mayoress Theresa Jenkins with President OJ Paton.

Lions' Book Fair proves a great three day fundraiser



Bridgend Lions' president OJ Paton holding the winning number for the large Easter Bunny donated by Lions' wife Pauline Gates. The lucky winner was Margaret Lewis.



Lizzie Houghton aged five from Cefn Glas, who popped into the Bridgend Lions' three day book sale at Westward Community Centre to purchase a book with her mum last weekend, wearing a beautiful Easter Bonnet.

BRIDGEND LIONS held a three day book sale fundraiser for local causes at the Westward Community Centre. It's an annual event and a spokesman said there was a 'brilliant response' from the public.

Heronston Hotel hosts St John black-tie charity ball

A BRIDGEND-based St John division is holding a black-tie charity ball on May 26 at the Best Western Heronston Hotel.

The ball is in aid of divisional funds to support the work of St John in the Bridgend and Pencoed areas.

Starting at 7pm the evening will consist of a three course dinner, raffle and entertainment until midnight.

Tickets cost £30 and are available from Pencoed-BridgendCharityBall@hotmail.com or 01656 647377. The event is for adults (18 years+) and tickets will be required for entry.

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A solemn Saturday as Porthcawl remembers the *Samtampa* disaster



ABOVE: The memorial plaque at Sker Point.
All photographs by Steve Jones Porthcawl RNLI.



At certain low tides, the *Samtampa* engine block is still visible.

A SERVICE will be held at All Saints Church, Porthcawl, at 3pm on Saturday, April 22, in memory of those lost at Sker Point 70 years ago.

Porthcawl's combined rescue services, made up of Porthcawl Unit of UK Coastguard Agency, Porthcawl RNLI and Porthcawl Fire Service, together with Porthcawl Museum, will remember the tragedy of the liberty ship SS *Samtampa* and the RNLI's Mumbles lifeboat *Edward Prince of Wales*.

The crews of both vessels, 47 in total, perished in a raging storm that swept up the Bristol Channel on April 23, 1947.

The spokesperson for the service of remembrance, Ross Martin, a deputy launch authority at Porthcawl lifeboat station, said: "It is almost impossible for us to imagine the conditions during that storm 70 years ago."

The *Samtampa* had sailed from her home port of Middlesbrough a few days earlier and entered the Bristol

Channel during a storm.

Mr Martin continued: "Although shelter was sought along the north Devon coast, neither engine power nor anchors could hold the vessel and she was blown across the channel towards the south Wales coast. A distress call was made and The Mumbles lifeboat was launched into the teeth of the storm to attempt a

rescue of the crew aboard the drifting ship.

"The *Samtampa* was washed onto rocks at Sker Point and was broken in three.

"Attempts to rescue the crew from the shore by Porthcawl coastguards failed due to the strength of the gale-force wind.

"The Mumbles lifeboat was found overturned on Sker rocks the following morning.

The crew – all from The Mumbles – had perished during the night in their efforts to save the casualties on board the Liberty ship".

Mr Martin added that it is expected that relatives of the casualties will travel from the Middlesbrough area and the Mumbles area to take part in the church service to commemorate those lost.



ED EVANS WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN – FOUNDATION MARKS 10th ANNIVERSARY

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE
AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

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THE Ed Evans Foundation held its 10th anniversary walk on Easter Monday and family, friends and supporters remembered Ed, and at the same time raised funds that will go to cancer research.

GEM photographer Glyn Evans was on hand to capture another notable chapter in the life of one of the Vale's great causes.



ABOVE:
A badge to prove
you finished the
walk.
RIGHT: It was a
great family day.



The fundraising Zumba instructors.



Zumbathon raises funds for 'baby loss' charity

AT the beginning of this Easter holiday, North Cornelly Community Centre played host to a weekend of events being held for Bro Morgannwg Baby Loss Support Charity, based at The Princess of Wales Hospital.

Bro Morgannwg Baby Loss Support group is a charity offering vital support to local families affected by the loss of a baby. The charity also funds staff training and special equipment, all focused on offering comfort, care and support to local bereaved families.

Andy Burnett, a local Zumba instructor, played a key role in making the weekend for the charity a big success in raising £1,931.23.

The amount raised will help the charity in its upcoming project for sound proofing the delivery room in the hospital.

The weekend consisted of a three-hour dance fitness Zumbathon in which participants danced their socks off in making every beat count. There was a mixture of dance styles from around the world: salsa, cumbia, bhangra (to name a few).

Andy was joined by other local Zumba instructors in performing a variety of dances for the three hours.

The following day was an Easter fair with many local crafters displaying an array work to the public, while being refreshed with Starbucks coffee on the premises. From candles and soaps to jewellery and cake, there was something for everyone and fun for

the whole family.

Andy would like to say 'thank you' to everyone who has helped in making the weekend of events happen for the charity.

AB

MP is grilled by local pupils

CHRIS Elmore MP visited Abercerdin Primary and Cefn Cribwr Primary schools last week to meet pupils and headteachers to discuss challenges and successes the schools face.

"Standards across Bridgend have increased consistently over the last four years," the MP said, and he was keen to congratulate staff and pupils on their hard work.

After visiting the schools, Mr Elmore said: "I'm always delighted to see the dedication of teachers and to see them getting the rewards for their tireless work is fantastic."

"I'm pleased during this recess to be able to visit the schools and see at first-hand the great work they're doing."

Mr Elmore met pupils and, during the visit to Cefn Cribwr, met with the school council who gave the Ogmere MP a grilling during their Q&A.

Welsh-speaking volunteers needed to greet Urdd visitors

WITH just five weeks to go, a team of Welsh-speaking volunteers is being sought to act as ambassadors to welcome visitors to this year's Urdd National Eisteddfod in Pencoed from May 29 to June 3.

An estimated 90,000 visitors are expected to attend the event over six days at the Pencoed College Fields (Bridgend County Showground) and the ambassadors are required to give

them the warmest possible welcome and provide details of Bridgend County Borough's culture, wildlife, history, arts and cuisine.

Those interested in volunteering will need to commit to two training days and then be available to volunteer for at least one, half-day session at the event during Whitsun week in exchange for a full day pass.

Training is free and is a time commitment of two days in a workshop setting, learning about the region.

The next set of training dates are Tuesday, April 25, Thursday, May 11 and Wednesday, May 24. Training will be conducted in Welsh, with support materials being offered in both Welsh and English.

To register, visit www.eventbrite.co.uk and search for 'Hyfforddiant Llysgenad Pen Y Bont Ar Ogwr', or contact Angharad Wynne by emailing angharad@angharadwynne.com or calling 07786 256722.

Commissioner visits Porthcawl

SARAH Rochira, a report on dementia, entitled 'Dementia: more than memory loss.' The Commissioner for Wales, paid her annual visit to 'Porthcawl Shout Forum' (PSF) last month.

She updated members on her five priorities for the past year.

Among other activities, she reported that she has published a 'GP Service in Wales' following an investigation into primary health care; monitored the quality of life of residents in care homes; secured the Welsh Government (WG) First Minister's agreement to the need for a 'Bill of Rights for Older People' – based on UN principles; published

a report on dementia, entitled 'Dementia: more than memory loss.' The WG will produce a strategy on dementia in June/July 2017; and collaborated with the Children's Commissioner to bring older and younger people together. The two commissioners explored common concerns such as loneliness and isolation, which is now regarded as a public health issue by the WG.

An 'Ageing Well in Wales' programme has been introduced to ensure that Wales is a good place in which to age. Shout members lamented the paucity of NHS dental services in Porthcawl, and the threat of closure of public toilets.

Peter and Christine retire after 36 years of dedicated service to Scout movement



Peter and Christine Faulkner (better known to many youngsters as Akela and Boskun), have decided to retire as leaders of the 3rd Bridgend (Cefn Glas) Cubs and Scouts after 36 years of dedicated service. They recently received the Borough Mayor's Citizenship Award and were wished a long and happy retirement. This photograph was taken by Scout Explorer Ben Harris at the couple's final AGM, held at the Scouts Hall, Bryntirion.

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Bryngarw Country Park is pretty in pink!



Do you have what it takes to change the world?

THE search is on for a new generation of leaders to join emerging leaders from nine other countries for an intensive policy and leadership development opportunity, Omore MP Chris Elmore has told The GEM.

Future Leaders Connect, launched this year by the British Council, will offer nine days of leadership learning and development for young people to provide them with the skills they need to turn innovative ideas into tangible policy recommendations.

Those taking part will meet heads of NGOs, policy-makers and British MPs.

Chris Elmore said: "We have a long,

proud tradition of democratic policy-making in this country and this is a great opportunity for the next generation of leaders to take it forward.

"I would urge anybody who wants to make a difference, have their voice heard and become a great leader, to apply to Future Leaders Connect."

They will join finalists from 10 other countries for a nine-day programme which culminates with one day in the Houses of Parliament, meeting MPs and law makers.

Anyone who would like to take part needs to submit an online application by 23.59 on Sunday, May 14.

They will be asked what their unique policy ideas are and about their experience as a leader. See www.britishcouncil.org/future-leaders-connect.

THIS time of year is full of colourful blossoms and Bryngarw Country Park was no exception with petals making a colourful carpet of pinks on the earth.

Local photographer Sue Dobbs took the above images, and you can see more of Sue's work on Susan Dobbs Photography, www.susandobbsphotography.co.uk

PORTHCAWL LIONS CLUB TO HOLD CHARITY GOLF EVENT

A CHARITY golf day and evening with historian Niall Ferguson' are being hosted by Porthcawl Lions Club next month.

The annual golf day will be held at the Grove Golf Club, Porthcawl, on June 2. Now in its ninth year, teams of four players will play 18 holes, with coffee on arrival and a buffet meal to follow.

This year's nominated

charities are Porthcawl Stroke Club and Prostate Cymru. With over £18,000 already raised from this event, the club is keen to make this year an even bigger success.

For details, contact David Richards on 01656 772598.

There are still tickets available for the 'An Evening with Niall Ferguson' event at All Saints Church, Porthcawl, on June 21, when Niall will reflect on many aspects of world affairs that will entertain not only

watchers of current global issues, but also those keen to meet the present owner of Sker House.

For tickets and information, contact Martin Patten on 01656 786745.

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Vale AM praises work of 'Group 617' members



The local AM at the '617 art exhibition'.

ON April 8, Jane Hutt AM opened the Group 617 art exhibition at the Hearth Gallery, Llandough Hospital.

This is a wonderful display of work produced by veterans and ex-service personnel. Group 617 – 'Making a Difference' – supports war veterans, current and former members of the armed services and emergency services, and their families.

Ms Hutt was pleased to meet Group 617 members who had produced work for the exhibition, including Russ Kitley and Spud Murphy.

The Vale's Assembly Member said: "This is a fantastic display of work from Group 617 members, and I was very pleased and honoured to be asked to open the exhibition, which is well worth the visit.

"Please make time to visit the gallery next time you are in Llandough."

'Optimistic' beekeepers can't let the horrors of the Asian Hornet get them down

AN in-depth inspection at the Fonmon Apiary has now been undertaken thanks to some days of sunshine.

One of the colonies was not as vigorous as the others and has consequently died out. This is not at all unusual and having more than one colony means I can make up the loss by splitting a colony as part of swarm control as the season progresses.

There are those who desire only one hive of bees but winter losses are, as I have said, not unusual. Having a minimum of two colonies does at least give the beekeeper some backup, and the opportunity to replace a lost colony.

It is my intention to replace the floors on three hives, as wear and tear is always with us. Today the floors have mesh instead of solid wood in them; the purpose of the mesh is to allow bits of wax, bits of bees, bits of pollen and dead Varroa Mites to fall through into a collecting drawer, as well as providing ventilation.

An examination of the drawer debris gives some indication as to the state of the hive and of course, a count of the dead mites (and sometimes live mites) informs you of the infestation level.

The contents of one drawer is sent off to the NBU (National Bee Unit) in York where the scientists there will also carry out an inspection and be looking out for anything I might have missed.

Beekeepers are now on the alert for the Asian hornet! This is a foreign import that was found last year in two locations in the UK. This hornet is a predator of insects and in particular the Honey Bee.

Once it finds a colony of bees (i.e. your hive) it will recruit others of its kind and they will hover around a hive and catch returning foragers – and dismember them before returning to their nest where the bee parts become food for the growing hornet larvae.

Over the past two years I have had a trap (provided by the NBU) designed to catch the Asian Hornet hung up in the apiary and it may well be required this year.

The hornet was accidentally imported into France some time ago and has spread rapidly. The English Channel has not proved to be a barrier.

But that is enough of the downside of things, a new season is upon us and the bees are foraging whenever conditions allow and my recent inspection has shown queen activity (egg laying) in progress.

Oilseed rape is in the area and the bees will use the pollen and nectar from this crop.

Charles Dickens has a character with 'great expectations'! And as ever I also have great expectations for this year. You have to be eternally optimistic when you are a beekeeper.

Harold Williams

Farmers need help to deal with flytipping

NFU CYMRU has welcomed Welsh Government proposals to introduce Fixed Penalty Notices for small scale fly-tipping in Wales, but says more must be done to stamp out the problem.

In response to the recent Welsh Government consultation, the Union identified that Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) have the potential to be a fast and efficient method to tackle crime and ensure the 'polluter pays'. However, to be effective the FPN needs to be significantly more than the cost of disposing of the waste legally.

NFU Cymru Rural Affairs Board chairman Hedd Pugh said: "While FPNs are a welcome step forward in tackling fly-tipping, their usefulness may be undermined by

the fact that there is no statutory duty on local authorities to investigate fly-tipping on private land.

"We believe that fly-tipping is a crime, irrespective of where it occurs, and authorities should afford the same level of priority to private land as publicly owned sites.

"We remain extremely concerned that the onus of clearing the site following fly-tipping remains the responsibility of the landowner – it is grossly unfair that the cost and burden should fall on farmers who are the victims of crime.

"NFU Cymru has highlighted, through the consultation, that the receipts from FPNs must be used to support farmers with the clear-up costs where the crime has occurred on farmland."

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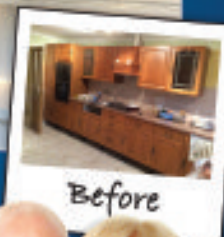
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Welsh singing society, St Augustine's Church, Penarth

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Tickets available on the door
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£20.00 for the concert and tea.

Collection of Parry's hymns for the Parry choir in St Augustine's Church

10.15pm of St Augustine's Church, Penarth, will be held in the church hall.

TP CARD

'Parry in Penarth' concert honours a great composer

MUSICIANS, singers and Joseph Parry enthusiasts will be gathering on Sunday, April 23, at St Augustine's Church – to celebrate the life and music of Wales's greatest 19th century composer, whose grave is in the churchyard at St Augustine's.

Lovers of Parry's music will be delighted to learn that St Augustine's will be echoing to his work during the 'Parry in Penarth' event which has been organised jointly between the Friends of St Augustine's and Ty Cerdd (Music Centre Wales).

The programme will include a lecture/recital, a concert and a Cymnfa Ganu.

Contributors include Alun Guy (conductor), David Thomas (organ), Sioned Terry (mezzo-soprano), Brian Ellsbury (piano), Frank Bott (Parry biographer) and the Cardiff Ardwyn Singers. Apart from the great favourites 'Myfanwy' and 'Aberystwyth' the programme will include many of Parry's songs, and will end with a Cyfmanfa Ganu (hymn singing festival).

Penarth has had many eminent residents over the years, but few can have been better known towards the end of 19th and early 20th centuries than the Welsh composer Dr Joseph Parry, who lived in Penarth for 15

years.

Such was his fame, that when he died in 1903, thousands of people lined the streets of Penarth and followed the cortege up to St Augustine's, where he was buried.

One hundred and fourteen years later, his fame has declined, but people still come from far and wide to visit his grave and recall a prodigious composer who journeyed from pit boy at nine in Merthyr Tydfil, to the USA with his family at 13 (where he worked in the rolling mills while studying music).

He returned home to become a central figure in Welsh academic and musical life, and wrote hundreds of hymn tunes and songs, anthems and chorals.

Parry's grave is now in need of repair and conservation, and the money raised from the event will go towards its restoration.

Parry in Penarth, which starts at 2.15pm, includes a lecture/recital, tea and concert. Tickets for this are £10 on the door. The Cymnfa Ganu starts at 6.30pm (free entry but there will be a voluntary collection for the grave). Organisers want this to be a joyous day of gratitude and affection for one of our very own Penarth 'greats'!

The morning service at St Augustine's (10.45am) will have Parry hymns and a Parry voluntary – all are welcome.

More information: www.friendsstaugustines.org.uk

Vale Funeral Service supports foodbank



Vale Funeral Service staff with the eggs destined for the food bank.

THE Vale Funeral Service wishes to thank the community for their continued support as they received more than 160 Easter eggs for their recent appeal.

Funeral director Lyndsay Ellis said: "As always, our community didn't let us down and the response and support has been amazing. Pastor Mike Holmes of the Vale Foodbank received the kind donations with much appreciation."

RAMBLERS EXPLORE THE CAERPHILLY COUNTRYSIDE

THE forecasted good weather was true to form when five walkers joined leader Geraint from Penarth and District Ramblers to explore in and around the Caerphilly area.

The group set off from Coed Parc-y-Van, and headed uphill to Rudry Common with a buzzard gracing the blue sky above them.

They followed unmarked paths to Rudry, the village church dedicated to St James provided them with a morning coffee stop. A rocky pathway led uphill through woodland carpeted with wood anemones and onto part of the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk, where at Cefn-Onn Farm, spring lambs were in abundance.

After lunch in warm sunshine overlooking a long abandoned quarry, it was time to move on to the Ridgeway Golf Course for the trek up to the busy Caerphilly Mountain Snack Bar.

Making their way across the car park and back into woodland, they took a diversion to Wern Ddu where a 300 million year old coal seam, known as Rhondda number 2, is on view before the short descent back to their start.

The following day, 15

walkers joined Joy for a trek in the delightful Monnow Valley, taking in the counties of Monmouthshire and Herefordshire.

Leaving the ruined Skenfrith castle, the group crossed the river to the quaint St Michael's Church at Garway which was built in 1180 by the Knights Templar who had returned from fighting in the Crusades.

After visiting the interior of this delightful church, a climb by road and lush meadows led to Garway Hill, where a cool breeze and misty views awaited them.

Descending Garway Common through White Rocks, farm tracks led down into the valley and through fields where a hare was spotted, before the descent through Great Domesne, past the bluebells in Cockshoot Wood to a quiet lane for the journey back to Skenfrith.

On April 22, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 10-mile moderate walk from Pontneddfechan taking in waterfall country and a cave; contact Clive on 029 2065 4156.

To follow the group please log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com or Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Dinas Powys village show
THIS year's village show will be held on Saturday, September 2 after the August Bank Holiday.

There will be a few changes to the schedule in the cookery, floral art and painting and drawing classes. There will also be a special photography class with the subject 'Saturdays', open to ages seven to 14 only.

The full schedule will be published by the end of June. Meanwhile, further details can be obtained from Val Hartney on 029 2051 3274 or at valhartney@talktalk.net.

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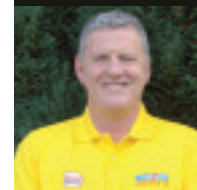
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Mercedes-Benz delivered to top Cardiff care home

The residents of Ty Llandaff were keen to have a look at the Mercedes-Benz when it arrived at the care home.



RESIDENTS at a care home in Cardiff can now be chauffeur-driven on trips to town in a new Mercedes-Benz.

Ty Llandaff, which specialises in residential, nursing, dementia and respite care, and offers 'all-inclusive living' at the luxury home in Conway Road, Pontcanna, took delivery of the executive car last week.

The fabulous facilities at the care home also include a home cinema, piano bar, hair salon, luxury spa, therapy rooms and on-site chef and fine dining.

Ty Llandaff care home manager Janice Evans said: "Some traditional care homes might have a

mini-bus to take residents out in but, at Ty Llandaff, our mission is to provide residents with exceptional levels of care, alongside superb facilities and services.

"The Mercedes is available for residents to take advantage of at their leisure and the service is included free of charge as part of our ethos of providing 'all-inclusive' living at the home.

"Keeping up with friendships and social connections — and making new ones — is important to your quality of life and overall well-being which is something our residents truly value."

For more information about Ty Llandaff call Janice on 02920 600 100, email info@tyllandaffcare.com or visit www.tyllandaffcare.com



The concert 'A Touch of the Irish' was held at All Saints Church, Barry.

Irish eyes are smiling at Barnardo's Barry concert

THE Barry Barnardo's helper group would like to thank all who attended and supported the recent charity concert 'A Touch of Irish' at All Saints' Church, Barry on Saturday, March 25.

Thanks from the committee go to the performers: All Saints' School choir, Andy Matthews, Angela Incledon, Gill Davies, The O'Donnell School of Irish Dance, the three 'Irish' Tenors and the MC Norman Pereira, who gave their time and talents to provide such a varied programme.

Special thanks also go to priest in charge Kevin Lake for the use of the church and hall.

A magnificent sum of £1,061 was raised from the event to support Barnardo's projects in Wales.

Mary Edmunds and Jen Morgan (on behalf of the Barry Barnardo's fundraising committee).

Home care agency supports Heart Awareness Month



Rita and a committee member with one of the raffle prizes.

ALLIED HEALTHCARE, a domiciliary care agency based in Barry, held a coffee and cake morning on Valentine's Day as part of Heart Awareness month to support Rita's Multicultural Café's quest to raise funds for the purchase of a defibrillator.

"We care for vulnerable, elderly clients on a daily basis, some of whom have heart conditions.

"It was an easy choice to support Rita's café to raise funds for this life saving equipment for those that

live or visit our community," said a spokesperson.

Rita from the café visited Allied Healthcare to add items to the raffle and to see the hard work the committee had put in to make the event a success. The committee raised a total of £78 for the cause.

She said: "We wish to thank the staff for their donations and the committee for going beyond their duty of care to make this fantastic donation in supporting this much-needed cause. "We also wish to thank Tesco for their support at the coffee morning."

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PENCOED FILM STUDIO HAS A 'DOCTOR' ON CALL

THE Sony UK TEC's Ffilm Factory 35 in Pencoed has become the latest in a string of locations for the new series of *Doctor Who*, after becoming a hotspot for filming in Wales.

Following the partial filming of *Decline and Fall* and major US TV show *Will* at Sony UK TEC in Pencoed, *Doctor Who* has also used the filming space

to produce some of the scenes in the new episode of the highly anticipated series.

Known for producing thousands of professional HD and 4K broadcast cameras each year, Sony UK TEC has expanded its offering with its 30,000sq ft filming facility.

The centre is reported as is becoming an increasingly attractive location for high profile and prime time shows due to its

versatile space and accessible location, adding to Wales' film and television offering.

Gerald Kelly, director of professional services at Sony UK Technology Centre, said: "Having the Ffilm Factory 35 chosen as one of the locations for filming highlights just how impressive the space is.

"We're proud to have been selected for some of the opening scenes, the moments that will hook audiences in the coming weeks.

"It's been a successful year for the facility, and we have hosted numerous high-profile projects, with *Doctor Who* being one of them. Wales is fast becoming a highly sought after filming location, and we're thrilled to be part of it."

The new series of *Doctor Who* will return this weekend on BBC One and is set to break conventions with its first openly gay assistant Bill Potts, played by Pearl Mackie.

Shakira's 'Big Idea' wins a top student award

SHAKIRA FRANCIS, a Level 3 administration student at Cardiff and Vale College, has won a students' award for Overall Best Business from the Welsh Government's Youth Entrepreneurship Service, for her social enterprise.

Shakira was at the final of Big Ideas Celebrated, a national competition aimed at finding and showcasing the best entrepreneurial talent among 16 to 25-year-olds in Wales. The competition, organised by the Welsh Government's Youth Entrepreneurship Service, was held at Cardiff City Stadium.

Visage De La Mode, a scheme for shows and workshops with the purpose of boosting women and girls' self-esteem, won the award for Overall Best Business in Further Education (FE). It had also been shortlisted in the Social Impact Award category.

Shakira (18) from Cardiff, had to deliver a one-minute pitch to a panel of judges, including South Wales



CAVC student Shakira Francis with Minister for Skills and Science, Julie James.

Federation of Small Business Development manager Neil Blockley, Doopol co-founder Steve Dimmick, Cheryl Gourelay of NatWest, and Tree Frog Digital director, Chris Grice.

As winner of Best Overall Business in FE, Shakira was presented with £350 and activity vouchers by Minister for Skills and Science, Julie James.

Shakira said: "I'm absolutely thrilled. Big Ideas Celebrated was a fantastic event with great opportunities to network and move my idea

forward."

Cardiff and Vale College's Entrepreneurship Enrichment team supported applications from three teams and three individual students. Two entries each were shortlisted in both Social Impact and Best Enterprise categories, while Shakira was also shortlisted for Best Overall Business in FE. CAVC students from business administration, hairdressing, computing and IT battled it out in the finals.

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South Wales Police receive top marks

Her Majesty's Inspectors of Constabulary has praised South Wales Police for the way it keeps people safe and reduces crime.

The conclusions are part of an annual assessment, looking at the effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy of all the forces in England and Wales.

South Wales Police was rated 'good' across all of these three areas, with HMI Wendy Williams concluding that she was 'very pleased' with the overall performance of the force.

In the report, Ms Williams commented: "South Wales Police is good at preventing crime and tackling anti-social behaviour. Neighbourhood officers engage well with local people and have a thorough knowledge of their issues and concerns.

"I am very pleased with the improvements that South Wales Police has made in the way it protects vulnerable people from harm and how it supports victims.

"The force now has a good understanding of the nature and scale of vulnerability among people in South Wales. It has trained staff to identify repeat and vulnerable victims when they first contact the force, and this means that the most vulnerable people are receiving an appropriate response."

The report concluded:

"The force is good at maintaining ethical and lawful behaviour in its workforce, and its vetting complies with national guidance. In summary, the force provides a good level of service to the people of south Wales."

Deputy Chief Constable Matt Jukes said: "The conclusions of the third report into the effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy of South Wales Police are the result of a lot of hard work and it is very pleasing to see that being recognised by the HMIC."



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LLANTWIT MAJOR & COWBRIDGE LIONS CLUB

COWBRIDGE MAY FAIR

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY • MAY 1, 2017

A MASSIVE community event is all set up for May 1 at Cowbridge on the Bear Field, writes PHILIP IRWIN.

Organised by Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions Club, the Cowbridge May Fair is becoming a regular fixture in the calendar, offering a full day out for the family.

It takes place every other year in Cowbridge, and the Lions organise a similar event on the alternate years in Llantwit, usually in June.

A Lions' spokesman told The GEM: "Since we started the May Fair, the aim has been to recapture the elements of a traditional rural fair, with Maypole dancing, children's races, bonny baby competitions, fairground attractions and even a tug of war!

"As in previous years, there will be musical performances from the main stage throughout the day, and there will be a wide range of stalls around the field, selling food, arts and crafts, produce, refreshments and much more."

There will be an all day children's soft play area and face painting in the Leisure Centre and this year, the event is bringing something new to the table – Cowbridge's own take on the Pamplona Bull Run, sponsored by Cowbridge Chamber of trade.

A Lions spokesman emphasised to The GEM that the proposed running order for the day could be subject to alteration, but it is planned that the day will begin at 10am, when the gates open and the acts scheduled for the main stage will start performing.

The various stalls (about 50 at the time of going

to press) will also aim to be up-and-running at 10am, and the funfair and Maypole dancing will start at 10am too.

The official opening of the May Fair will be performed by the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Liz George, accompanied by the Town Crier.

The Bonny Baby competition, which will be judged by Lucy Owen, is at 2pm with a prize donated by a local business.

The heats of the Tug of War competition will also start at 2pm.

At 3pm, a number of children's races will start, although it is advisable for parents to check the programme on the day. Local shops are donating prizes.

As the day closes, the new 'Bull Run' is scheduled for 4pm, with local people invited to don their bull's horns and run the gauntlet of local children armed with ripe tomatoes.

The Cowbridge Chamber of Trade has put up a first prize of £100.

Once again, it is advised that prospective entrants check details of the run earlier in the day with the organisers.

However, it should provide an exciting climax to the day, before the event closes at 5pm.

There will be acts on stage throughout the day, although circumstances may mean some changes to the running order.

The full stage programme at the time of going to press is:

- 10am – 10.20 – To be confirmed.
- 10.35am – 10.55 – Y Bont Faen School Choir
- 11am – official opening
- 11.15 – 11.45 – Patrick/Christie/Lowry + friends
- 12 noon – 12.30 – Rock Choir.
- 12.45pm – 1.15 – Stagecoach.
- 1.30pm – 2pm – Gareth and Caitlin,
- 2.15 – 3pm – Total Chaos (juniors and seniors).
- 3pm – 4pm – Band setting up/children's races
- 4pm – end – Rock 'n' Soul.

The local fire service has said that a fire engine will be at the event (call-outs permitting), and it is hoped to put on a demonstration.

The spokesman added: "A programme for the day will be given out at the entry gates. Entry is free but a donation to Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions Club Charitable Trust Fund, which benefits local good causes and Lions projects, would be much appreciated."

SYLVIA WILLIAMS
CHEMIST

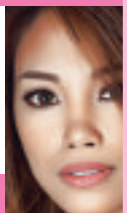
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Readers' Letters

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- Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

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'A STRONG COMMUNITY WITH A BRIGHT FUTURE?'

IT was nice to see the Vale Council crowding that they are in the running to be named as the best local authority in the UK (The GEM, April 13).

Commenting on the possible award, council managing director, Rob Thomas said: "In 2016, we announced a new vision to build strong communities with a bright future."

Perhaps the sponsors of this award, The Municipal Journal should look at how they are achieving this vision by allowing the siting of a biomass incinerator in the midst of a densely populated urban area, which will adversely affect the quality of life of hundreds, if not thousands, of people – and negatively impact on future waterfront development and tourism.

Frightened by losing on appeal the refusal of the original planning application, the Vale just rolled over when a revised one was put to them in 2015, which significantly increased emissions of air pollutants more than five-fold. In particular, nitrogen oxide will go up from 0.8132 g/s to 4.5g/s – one of the main reasons for increasing the stack height from 20m to 43m.

These gases react to form smog and acid rain as well as being central to the formation of fine particles and ground level ozone, both of which are

Could we have expected different outcome on plant?

REGARDING the belated furore over the gasification plant, a recent contributor is "disgusted that the Welsh Government and the Vale Council have granted planning permission".

I would agree, though as the Welsh Government and the Vale Council are Labour controlled, could we reasonably have expected any other outcome? Think how we vote(d).

John Deavall, Barry.

'Toxic brownfield sites need decontamination'

OVER the last year much has been written about the proposed expansion of housing developments in Cardiff and the Vale, which will affect everyone.

Ten years ago, I attended a seminar at the County Hall, Cardiff on the above proposals. We were told that the Government planned to create a metropolis in the region between Newport and Bridgend, where all suburbs would merge closer together ensuring a high density of traffic movement.

It was also submitted that junction 33 of the M4 would host a retail park, coach station, bus station and a hotel. In addition, 5,000 parking spaces would be allocated for shoppers, as well as 3,000 spaces for employees.

Many years ago,

before the M4 came into existence, I studied the proposed plans for the route it would take. I was informed that the residential areas of south east Wales would alter and that new developments would be built near to the motorway.

Hence today, Cardiff is one of the UK's fastest growing cities with 80,000 people already commuting into the capital region, and causing congestion on the roads, which is bad for business.

I agree with readers of The GEM that south east Wales holds many desolate brownfield sites which could be developed for housing. Sadly, those sites are toxic. Neither local councils nor developers wish to take on the prohibitive costs of decontaminating them.

Germany cleared all its brownfield sites decades ago.

V Bird, Penarth.

associated with adverse health effects.

If this is an example of how the council thinks it is building strong communities with a bright future, what else have they got up their sleeves?

If anyone would really like to tell the Municipal Journal what we really think about our council, they can contact the editor, Heather Jameson.

Ian Blackhouse, Barry.

Beach huts and 'limited availability'

WHAT'S occurin' with the annual rental of Barry Island beach huts?

Shortly after Christmas, we contacted the Vale Council and were advised that the beach hut allocation for 2017/18 season would be "widely advertised".

As this did not transpire, we phoned the council to check on the state of play and were again assured they would be advertised before the end of March.

In the absence, yet again, of any information, we contacted the Vale Council in early April, only to be told that it had been a cabinet decision to offer rentals for the forthcoming season to existing beach hut holders.

How unfair is that, given the huge public interest in these popular facilities?

Unsurprisingly, the take up was 10 out of 12, leaving just two huts for this year's draw. This

was farcically described on the council's website as 'limited availability'!

We are given to understand that the hire of the beach huts comes under the 'waste management department'. How appropriate, as we have been wasting our time trying to get an annual rental for this year.

Never mind – there's always next year's draw, unless that also proves to be a complete waste of time.

Perhaps the council's scrutiny committee could ensure that there is more fair play in future and that people who have enjoyed two seasons of occupancy of the beach huts are not eligible to take part in the 2018/19 draw.

We would be very interested to know the thinking behind this disappointing and unfair decision.

FK and AJ Tancock, Barry.

'Porthkerry wildlife continues to thrive'

ON behalf of Porthkerry Wildlife Group I would like to thank Laurie Owen for his interesting article in the Barry and Penarth GEM on April 13 'Nostalgic ramble in Porthkerry'.

It was fascinating to read about his adventures in Porthkerry Park when he was a boy. I have no explanation for the lack of birds in Knockmandown Wood. Perhaps the carrion crows (or even the resident buzzards) were on the prowl for fledglings and the birds were keeping quiet.

However, when the group recently surveyed a small section of Mill Wood near the sawmill

we counted 15 robins, two song thrushes, five blackbirds, two nuthatches, a green woodpecker and loads of tits, all singing or calling.

Our ponds may have been quiet on that day, but on our night survey for amphibians at the end of March we counted nearly 400 toads and frogs in the ponds and stream nearby. A very healthy population considering that the ponds haven't been there long, and withstand periods of drought and disturbance from dogs. The spawn has all hatched out now and the tadpoles are always a bit hard to see.

Fortunately for all of us quite a lot of the wildlife in Porthkerry Park continues to thrive.

Alison Palmer, (Porthkerry Wildlife Group).

Out & About with The GEM

Less drama would make this even more Fast & Furious!

FOR a franchise that appeared to be heading for the scrapheap after its third installment, the *Fast & the Furious* films have continued to be

successful, with the last outing (the seventh) raking in a massive \$1.5 billion worldwide.

Unsurprisingly then the eighth of the series, entitled *Fast & Furious 8* (or *The Fate of The Furious*), revs into

cinemas, the first since the tragic passing of co-lead Paul Walker.

With his character Brian retired from a life of crime, the rest of the gang have settled into a seemingly normal life.

But when they find themselves caught up in the web of the mysterious Cipher (Charlize Theron), the likes of Vin Diesel's Dom, Michelle Rodriguez's Letty, Dwayne Johnson's Hobbs and the rest have to work together to stop her – but she has more up her sleeve than she lets on...

The constant on-again off-again relationship of the *Fast & Furious* franchise has meant that each subsequent installment has never failed to catch the eye, through jaw-dropping action sequences and, rarely for blockbusters that seem to leave their brains at the door, engaging narratives.

Fast & Furious 8 wholly embraces this template, with the added wrinkle that it appears Vin Diesel's Dom has turned his back on his family (a word that seems to be the most used in the franchise) and gone rogue.

A slight deviation from the usual driving of fast cars and stopping dangerous criminals then? A little, but in trying to push the story this way, what is lacking is the joyous sense of fun and ridiculousness that you get elsewhere.

While the Dom strand of the film lacks energy and surprise once the stakes are revealed, elsewhere there is enough plain daftness, humour and energy to keep you watching.

In a way it's like two films are taking place, one an overwrought drama that sees a man turn his back on the ones he loves out of a sense

of duty, doing the wrong thing for the right reasons – and one an action film that dials up the testosterone and doesn't take itself too seriously.

Fortunately the latter wins out.

Despite having topped all but one of these films, Vin Diesel is a more of a physical presence than an acting one, so giving him the emotional heavy lifting fails to pay dividends.

With a furrowed brow and a mangled delivery (not helped by portentous and clunky dialogue), Diesel proves that he works best when he has his charismatic co-stars to bounce off.

Thankfully the other cast members fare better. While regulars like Michelle Rodriguez and Chris Bridges are sidelined a little, it doesn't matter when you have Dwayne Johnson, Jason Statham, Tyrese and Kurt Russell knocking around with each other.

Pitching their performances perfectly, the time spent with these characters as they prepare to track down Dom are the most enjoyable parts of the film, especially Johnson and Statham's chemistry, the pair great fun together.

Having Charlize Theron bring the villainous Cipher to life is a coup for a film where even Helen Mirren pops up for a few minutes, but while the actress brings gravitas to the character, there's just not enough in the script to make her compelling enough, her muddled MO explained away in one monologue.

Writer Chris Morgan is a series veteran, and as such his screenplay knows just where to go and what to do. It's not writing on auto-pilot,

more a knowledge of the characters and their behaviour, the sense of familiarity comforting.

If some of the dialogue doesn't pass muster, then Morgan's ability to keep the story moving is a great positive, the film never lacking for momentum.

Director F Gary Gray has previous with cars on film, having helmed *The Italian Job* remake in 2003, and here he brings a sheen of professionalism, but seems a little too often to get caught up in making a 'Fast & Furious' film rather than bringing his own personality to proceedings.

The grandiose set pieces are delivered with no little style (and a little questionable CGI) but Gray never seems to stamp his own mark on the film itself.

While every Fast film since the atrocious fourth outing has got bigger and better, *Fast & Furious 8* doesn't make the leap in quality from the last outing.

While still wildly enjoyable, it's dragged down by attempts to make something deep and meaningful where there shouldn't be – less drama would make this more Fast & Furious!

VERDICT - For a film series on its eighth outing, *Fast & Furious 8* is a ridiculously action-packed affair, a glorious cacophony of carnage – it's just a shame Vin Diesel wanted to use it as a showcase for his 'acting' talent.

When it channels the fun of the other films it soars, thanks to the charisma of the rest of the cast and some wondrous action set-pieces. Recommended.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *THE FASTER YOU RUN* (2014), *The Transporter* (2002)



by GARETH JAMIESON
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Seven Welsh bands at rock festival

WALES is rocking – seven local rock acts have pipped fierce international competition for main stage slots at this year's Wildfire Festival, already heralded as the most comprehensive UK - national showcase of the New Wave of British Classic Rock.

Fireroad, The Texas Flood, Kane'd, Those Damn Crows, Beth Blade and The Beautiful Disasters, Pilgrim and Beautiful Strangers will all appear on a 69-strong bill to be held in the grounds of Wiston Lodge, Scotland, between June 23 and June 25. Weekend tickets have been held at 2016 prices until the end of April.

The Wildfire Festival will include 2007 World Superbike Champion James Toseland to headline Saturday night; a new teenage-specific stage to introduce a new generation to live music; the first major festival billings for a number of rising, breakthrough bands.

V i s i t
www.wildfirefestival.co.uk for further information.

Barry stamp and postcard fair

ON Saturday, April 29 the Barry Philatelic and Postcard Society is holding its annual spring fair at the

Highlight Community Centre (which is behind Tesco) on Port Road, Barry from 10am to 4pm.

All are welcome. Admission is 50p and refreshments are available.

The club holds meetings twice a month on Monday evenings at the centre, starting at 7.30pm.

Membership is open to everyone, young or more senior and a warm welcome is assured.

The meetings are interesting and varied along with visiting clubs from the South Wales Federation as well as our own interests.

Barry Philatelic & Postcard Society
STAMP & POSTCARD SPRING FAIR
at Highlight Community Centre (alongside Tesco)
Port Road, Barry
SATURDAY APRIL 29th 2017
10am-4pm • Entry 50p
• Refreshments
National Dealers Present

OCEAN LOUNGE PORKKERRY ENTERTAINMENT

Saturday 22nd April
JACK THIRLWELL
First Class Vocal Entertainer

Saturday 29th April
JULIE JEWEL
Vivacious Vocal Entertainer

BINGO
Saturday Evenings

SUNDAY LUNCH
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CAR BOOT SALE

Every Sunday from 1pm
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(01446) 710362/711538

Open: Friday 7pm - 12pm.
Saturday 12 noon - 4pm & 7pm - midnight.
Sunday 12 noon - 4pm.

Vale for Africa charity concert

THE choir City Voices Cardiff are performing a charity concert at the majestic Bradenstoke Hall, St Donat's Castle on Sunday, May 14 at 3pm.

All proceeds will go to the Vale for Africa Atlantic College Student Scholarship Fund. The gates to St Donat's Tudor gardens open at 1.30pm.

You are invited to bring a picnic and enjoy this spectacular setting with its sea views – please bring your own

picnic blankets and folding chairs.

City Voices Cardiff will be supported by students of UWC Atlantic College music department. Tickets are £17.50 each and are available from St Donat's Arts Centre; email: boxoffice@stdonats.com or call the Box Office on 01446 799100.

The Vale for Africa Atlantic College Student Scholarship Fund enables a student from Uganda to come to Wales for two years to study at the world renowned Atlantic College, St Donat's.

Find out more at valeforafrica.org.uk.

live happy! with Slimming World

New Consultant from Monday 17th April

Mondays 5.30pm and 7.30pm

Elfed Avenue United Church, Elfed Avenue, Penarth, CF64 3LX

Helen 07814 609013

New Group Wednesday 7.30pm

The Vets Function Room, 165 Oxford Street, Pontycymer, CF32 8DE

Emma 07794 522856

Mondays 5.00pm and 7.00pm

Cadoxton Moors Community Centre, Off Cardiff Road, Barry

Julie 07903 585693

Mondays 5.30pm and 7.30pm

Tabernacle Church Kings Square, Barry

Lorraine 01446 407002

Mondays 5.30pm and 7.30pm

Celtic Way Community Centre, Rhose

Helen 01446 750738/07968 355119

Mondays 5.30pm and 7.30pm

Gilgal Church Hall, Woodland Avenue, Porthcawl, CF36 5HU

Beverley 07912 172674

Tuesdays 9.30am and 11.30am

Parish of Our Lady & St Illtyd, (Catholic Church), Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major

Helen 01446 750738/07968 355119

Tuesdays 5.30pm and 7.30pm

Parish of Our Lady & St Illtyd, (Catholic Church), Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major

Helen 01446 750738/07968 355119

Tuesdays 5.30pm

Holy Trinity Presbyterian, Church Hall, Trinity Street, Barry

Joanne 01446 404897

Tuesdays 6.30pm

The Old School, South Road, Sully CF64 5TG

Nicola 07951 510871

Wednesdays 4.45pm and 6.45pm

St Francis Millennium Centre, Park Road, Porth-Y-Castell, Barry

Annamarie 07837 497523

Wednesday 5.30pm and 7.30pm

Buttrills Community Centre, North Walk, Barry

Martin 07827 445570

Wednesdays 6.00pm

5th Barry Sea Scout Hall, Everard Street, Barry, CF63 4PW

Joanne 01446 404897

Wednesday 3.30pm, 5.30pm, and 7.30pm

Bridgend Deaf Club, Coychurch Road, Bridgend

Helen 07714 170908

Wednesdays 9.30am and 11.30am

All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth

Linda 01446 761150/07809 901008

Wednesdays 5.00pm

All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth

Linda 01446 761150/07809 901008

Thursdays 10.15am and 11.30am

St Helen's Church Hall, Wyndham Street, Barry

CF63 4EL

Nicola 07951 510871

Thursdays 5.30pm

Highlight Park Community Centre, Barry

Annamarie 07837 497523

Thursdays 5.30pm and 7.30pm

The Cabin (Next to Swim Pool), Rear of Hebron Hall, Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys

Linda 01446 761150/07809 901008

Saturdays 7.30am, 9.30am and 11.30am

Buttrills Community Centre, North Walk, Barry

Martin 07827 445570

Saturday 9.30am

All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth

Linda 01446 761150/07809 901008

Thursdays 3.30pm, 5.30pm and 7.30pm

Talbot Community Centre, Kenfig Hill

Millie 07765 040006

Thursday 9.30am

Talbot Community Centre, Kenfig Hill

Millie 07765 040006

Thursdays 5.30pm and 7.30pm

The Bayside Room, Hi Tide, Porthcawl, CF36 5BT

Rachel 07779 956233

Thursdays 9.30am

Nolton Church Hall, Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend, CF31 3NH

Donna 07790 797008

Thursdays 5.30pm

St Davids Church Hall, Wimborne Road, Pencoed, Bridgend, CF35 6SG

Donna 07790 724562

Thursdays 9.30am and 11.30am

Sarn & Bryncwils Social Club, Bryncoch Road, Sarn, Bridgend, CF32 9NY

Scott 07415 724562

Thursdays 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm, and 11.30am

Sarn & Bryncwils Social Club, Bryncoch Road, Sarn, Bridgend, CF32 9NY

Scott 07415 724562

Fridays 9.30am and 11.30am

The Cabin (Next to Swim Pool), Rear of Hebron Hall, Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys

Linda 01446 761150/07809 901008

Saturdays 7.30am, 9.30am and 11.30am

Buttrills Community Centre, North Walk, Barry

Martin 07827 445570

Saturday 9.30am

All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth

Linda 01446 761150/07809 901008

slimmingworld.co.uk
0344 897 8000



Penarth campaigners against arms trade hold peace vigil in Usk



THE Penarth Christian Network of the Campaign Against the Arms Trade organised a 'vigil' outside BAE Systems Munitions Glascoed in Usk on Maundy Thursday.

A spokesman said: "The vigil took place at the shift change time outside the factory with numerous security staff looking on.

"As hundreds of cars poured into the factory, a short service prepared by Alison Norris from Albert Road Methodist Church was read by selected members of the CAAT support group."

Sully Painting Group's competition

SULLY Painting Group held its annual competition on April 4, using the theme of 'Wales' for this year's entries.

There was a very high standard of work from the members, which made the judge's task very difficult. There were four categories of entry: watercolour, oil and acrylic, mixed media and pastel. Professional local artist Vaughan Cummings was invited to judge the entries and give feedback on each painting.

This year's winners included

Robert Williams from Barry, who won the oil and acrylic section and then was voted overall winner by members of the group for his atmospheric picture featuring a chamber tomb in Pembrokeshire.

The watercolour section was won by Sara Thomas for her painting of Rhydyar Cottages at St Fagans. The mixed media was won by Pam Hildrup for her painting of cottages in Abergavenny and the pastel competition was won by Hilary Tasker for her picture of a Welsh Corgi dog.

Will you give shy Nikki a loving home?

NIKKI is currently one of the longest staying cats in the Cats Protection, Bridgend Adoption Centre.

She was admitted for rehoming because her owner felt she would benefit from a quieter home. She is a friendly and affectionate cat, but can be shy and will let you know when she wants some space.

She is looking for a home without other pets and ideally somewhere quiet where she will receive love and patience.

If you think you can offer Nikki a home, contact Cats Protection, Bridgend Adoption Centre, Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin, Bridgend, CF32 9UJ; telephone 01656 724 396; email bridgend@cats.org.uk or see www.bridgend.cats.org.uk.



Faye nails skills competition

RIGHT: Faye Lobeck with her trophy.



CARDIFF and Vale College student **Faye Lobeck** has won bronze in the Skills Competition Wales Nail Technology category.

The Level 2 Beauty and Nail Services student's achievement is all the more impressive because Faye was competing against Level 3 students from across the region. Several students from CAVC took part in the competition at Coleg Cambria in Deeside.

The contest, which feeds into the wider WorldSkills UK competition, involved students, trainees and apprentices having three hours in which to apply a full set of nail acrylic – one hand painted with

nail art and one French polished.

"I wasn't nervous because I didn't have any high expectations," said Faye (27) from Barry.

"I've been involved with competitions in the past – I just wanted to make sure I completed the task. I was really shocked to come third and win bronze. I wasn't expecting it at all – I struggled a bit during the competition and I thought I hadn't done the best nails that I could do."

Hayley Parsons-Jones, retail and business development manager at CAVC's urbsaba salon, said: "We are proud of all of the CAVC students who competed on the day and the standard was extremely high. They represented the College incredibly well." and our thanks go out to them."

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Fifty years of Celtic-German friendship through music



Die Liederlichen Feel harmoniker group.

THE forthcoming visit of the Liederlichen Feel harmoniker group from Rheinfelden to Barry is causing a lot of excitement at rehearsals for the Barry Male Voice Choir (BMVC).

It is now a week before this outstanding musical group perform a variety of items ranging from humorous to pop, classical and opera in English and German.

"It will be a pleasure and a privilege to again share a concert with our talented German guests," said BMVC chairman, Gareth Roberts.

"In 2015, our joint concert in Rheinfelden was enjoyed by an enthusiastic capacity audience. We hope that this can be repeated in Barry."

The joint concert marks the 50th anniversary of the first exchange between BMVC and the United Choirs of Rheinfelden. BMVC is grateful to the Barry Town Council and the Vale Council for their support in arranging this visit.

Barry Male Voice Choir and Liederlichen Feel Harmoniker concert takes place at the Masonic Hall, Broad Street, Barry on Saturday, April 29 at 7pm. Tickets (£8) available from choir members or by telephoning 01446 402398.

COLLEGE SETS DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION CHALLENGE



The teams from Ysgol Plasmawr and St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School with their winners' certificates.

Mega book sale boosts Martin Joseph charity

AFTER nearly three months of planning, organising, collecting, categorising and pricing, the day of the mega book sale at Trinity Methodist Church finally arrived.

In spite of the lovely sunshine and other activities around town, a good number of people came, browsed and bought books before enjoying refreshments and buying raffle tickets and cakes for tea.

There was a lovely buzz of conversation among all who stayed to enjoy a cuppa after making their purchases, with many commenting how well laid out the book sale was and what a vast and varied selection of books were on offer.

The organisers would like to thank all who donated books or raffle prizes and baked goods to sell – and not forgetting everyone who donated their time to help on the day and especially

those who gave their time – and muscles! – setting up the rooms and putting them back to normal after the event.

A huge thanks goes to Russel, the manager of Aldi (Cardiff Bay) who so generously donated all the strong carrier bags for buyers to take their books home in and also to Liam (from Aldi) who transported the many empty boxes to Trinity, in which the books were displayed.

Thanks also to Geoff from Bro Radio and The Glamorgan GEM for all the help publicising the event in the lead up, and of course to everyone who attended and gave so generously.

The success of the day was topped by the knowledge that £630 had been raised for the chosen charity, Martin Joseph's Let Yourself Trust (www.letyourselftrust.net).

Ro and Ceri-Lou Newman, Trinity Methodist Church Penarth fundraising team

'Rock and Raise' gig for charity

FOR one night only, Rock and Raise is at the Paget Rooms, Penarth.

Rock and Raise 17 is being staged on Saturday, July 1 and tickets have just gone on sale.

The night will feature five live acts, including popular south Wales band The Woods, singer songwriter Chris Kelly and '60s covers band, The Word – with more acts to be announced in the coming weeks.

Co-organiser Chris Wood said: "A number of us have played locally for a long time, and we

thought it would be great to bring a few acts together for one great night of music".

"The Paget Rooms is an iconic venue in Penarth, and we hope people will turn out in force for a really good night of music, while raising money for Velindre Cancer Centre and LATCH."

Tickets cost £15 and are available from WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/ROCKANDRAISE17 or in person from Osmond Drakes, Opticians or David Baker Estate Agents in Penarth.



THE next generation of construction technicians have had their skills tested at a special design and

construction challenge at Cardiff and Vale College.

More than 70 pupils from eight schools from across Cardiff and the Vale took part in the challenge at CAVC's Cardiff Construction Training Centre and on its Barry Campus. Ysgol Gyfun Plasmawr won the Cardiff competition and a team from St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School were the winners in the Vale heat.

The teams of year-10 pupils were split into contractors with a project manager then given a plot in which they each had different tasks, from paving the floor through to designing and creating a tile mosaic and putting up fencing. The competition is designed to give school pupils a taste of the various tasks involved in the construction industry and to show the value of vocational education.

Mr Bright, a product design teacher at St Richard Gwyn said: "The experience, which included a traditional builder's breakfast, gave pupils a fantastic insight into the world of construction and the range of potential career opportunities that are available in industry."

"The day was a huge success and showcased a high standard of work from all participating schools. I would strongly recommend other schools throughout Cardiff and the Vale getting involved."

"We didn't really know what to expect from the day," St Richard Gwyn pupil Molly Gunney said. "No-one in the team had any previous experience of brickwork, carpentry, wall and floor tiling or being a project manager and it was the first time our school had entered the competition."

"By the end of the day we had experienced it all and ended up winning the event. It was an amazing experience."

"I had no idea I could tile, and certainly didn't think I would enjoy it, but I did," fellow pupil Charlotte Adams added.

Connor Club said: "I really enjoyed the event. I was the project manager and got to oversee all the different trades working."

"There were so many different skills needed for each job and I learnt so much about each one. It certainly gave me a great insight into the construction industry."

Ysgol Plasmawr pupil Niamh Davies said: "The day was great fun. I learned how to tile and how to measure and cut materials precisely."

"It was very interesting and I enjoyed the experience of gaining an insight into the world outside school and what the college can offer," said fellow pupil Corey Baldwin.

Paige Lewis added: "It was fun, excellent and different to normal. A great experience!"

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

(EAGLESWELL ROAD (RHAN) A BOVERTON ROAD (RHAN)) LLANILLTUD FAWR (CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) 2017

1. Ar 20 Ebrill 2017, gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygwyd) Orchymyn a fydd yn gorfodi'r hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodleni isod:

2. Enw'r Gorchymyn fydd "Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg (Eagleswell Road (Rhan) a Boverton Road (Rhan)) Llanilltud Fawr (Cau Ffordd) (Dros Dro)" 2017.

ATODLEN 1

1. Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi neu'n caniatáu i gerbyd modur deithio yn y lleoliad a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad Eagleswell Road, Llanilltud Fawr i'w chau o'r gyffordd â Boverton Road am 5m i'r gogledd.

Llwybr Amgen Pan fydd y ffordd ar gau bydd dargyfeiriadau ar hyd Boverton Amger Road, Ffordd Osgoi Llanilltud Fawr, Llanmaes Road a'r adran o Eagleswell Road sydd dal ar agor.

Lleoliad 2 Boverton Road, Llanilltud Fawr o'r gyffordd â Eagleswell Road am 25m i'r gogledd-orllewin

Llwybr Amgen Pan fydd y ffordd ar gau bydd dargyfeiriadau ar hyd adran orllewinol Boverton Road, Le Poulliguen Way, Station Road, Heol Fawr, Heol y Bont-faen, Ffordd Osgoi Llanilltud Fawr, ac adran ddwyreiniol Boverton Road.

Ni fydd trefniadau hyn i gau'r ffyrdd hyn ar yr un pryd.

Rheswm I wneud gwaith gwella ar Reoli Llifogydd yn Nhrefebefed.

Hyd O 6.00am dydd Llun 24 Ebrill am ddim mwy na 18 mis

Llwybr Amgen Bydd gwyriadau i draffig ar gael trwy gyffordd y ffordd newydd oddi ar Ffordd Caerdydd sydd i'r de o gyffordd Cross Common Road.

DS: Sicrhair mynediad i gerddwyr bob amser.

Dyddiedig 20 Ebrill 2017.

M. E. Punter, Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Yr Alpau, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.



THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

(EAGLESWELL ROAD (PART) AND BOVERTON ROAD (PART)) LLANTWIT MAJOR (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2017

1. On 20th April 2017 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:

2. The Order will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Eagleswell Road (Part) and Boverton Road (Part)) Llantwit Major (Road Closure) (Temporary) Order" 2017.

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location 1 Eagleswell Road, Llantwit Major to be closed from its junction with Boverton Road for a distance of 5m in a northerly direction.

Alt Route During this closure diversions via Boverton Road, Llantwit Major Bypass, Llanmaes Road, and the remaining open section of Eagleswell Road will be available.

Location 2 Boverton Road, Llantwit Major from its junction with Eagleswell Road for a distance of 25m in a north westerly direction.

Alt Route During this closure diversions via the western section of Boverton Road, Le Poulliguen Way, Station Road, High Street, Cowbridge Road, Llantwit Major Bypass, and the eastern section of Boverton Road will be available.

These two closures will not be in force at the same time.

Reason To allow Boverton Flood Risk improvement works to take place.

Duration From 6.00am on Monday 24th April 2017 for a maximum period of 18 months

NB: Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times.

Dated this 20th day of April 2017.

M. E. Punter, Director of Environment & Housing Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.



PM's call for snap general election

THE decision by Prime Minister Theresa May to call a snap General Election – on June 8 – has been met, perhaps predictably, by different views.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives, Andrew RT Davies, said: "On June 8 we have an opportunity to vote for the strong and stable leadership that both Wales and Britain need to see us through Brexit and beyond."

"Here in Wales, both Labour and the Welsh nationalists have been in denial over Brexit, and have sought to undermine the process at every stage."

"As we move through this period of national change, voters across the UK will face a choice

between the leadership of Theresa May or the chaos and incompetence of Jeremy Corbyn."

However, Bridgend MP Madeleine Moon took a very different view.

She told The GEM: "This is another broken promise from Mrs May. A Remain voter, she now wants a Hard Brexit."

"A commitment to no early general election dismissed as easily as parts of the recent Budget. We are being asked to waste two of the 24 months to negotiate the hard Brexit May promises, while also facing crisis in Syria and North Korea."

"This is the actions of an opportunist politician, not a solid reliable PM putting her country first."

Barry's 'Mr Sleek' in weight-loss mission throughout the Vale

A dad-of-four from Barry is now embarking on a life changing career after being crowned Mr Sleek UK since losing an incredible ten and a half stone!

Now, Martin Woodford is on a mission to reach out and help as many people within the Vale to achieve their weight loss dreams too.

At his heaviest he weighed more than 27 stone and suffered a string of health problems including diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma, sciatica and severe back pain. It left him fearing he wouldn't be around to see his children grow up.

Since dropping to 14st 2lbs and losing 12 inches from his waist, the 45-year-old embarked on new career in July 2016 and is now an award-winning Slimming World consultant.

Martin says his weight problems began after an abusive childhood and he fluctuated in size throughout his teens, 20s and early 30s.

However, it was after his triplets were born in 2008 that he saw his weight increase dramatically: "They were born three months premature and suffered



Martin Woodford before and after.

varying degrees of health problems. It was a very difficult time and I practically lived at the hospital, so my eating habits suffered badly."

VICIOUS CYCLE

As time went on Martin's weight impacted on his physical and emotional health. He suffered from depression and said: "Because of all of my health issues I was a regular visitor to hospital, I was in a bad way."

"I was so ashamed of myself that I didn't want to leave the house, and I had no energy to do anything so I'd just sit on the sofa and eat junk food every night. It was a vicious cycle."

"The fact is, I had given up on who I was after a lifetime of being told that I would never amount to anything. I was determined that

something had to change. He explained: "When I first joined Slimming World, I was shy and embarrassed so I sat at the back and didn't speak to anyone to start with but staying at the class helped me immensely - the love and support from my consultant and the family atmosphere of the group was unlike any other I had tried before. The plan was easy to follow and more importantly - I was never hungry!"

HÔME COOKED

Martin soon discovered that food optimising was a world away from the restrictive diets and quick-fixes he had tried before - including diet pills. He swapped his junk food dinners for healthy home-cooked meals, including his favourite homemade Chicken tikka

masala with boiled rice, and found he could still enjoy treats too.

Martin enthused: "What I love about Food Optimising is that it's not a diet, it's completely sustainable and nothing is off limits. ... I even eat chocolate every day!"

His health has now improved dramatically.

He's also taken on a new role of becoming a Slimming World Consultant to help and inspire others on their weight loss goals.

Martin said: "I'm now helping 300 members lose weight each week but I'm on a mission to help lower the obesity rates within the Vale in my new role as Team Developer."

"We need more groups in the locality and it is astonishing to note that 53 per cent of the Vale's population is overweight or obese."

If you're a member (past or present) and would like to find out more about being a consultant, contact Martin on: 07827 445570. His own Slimming World groups are at Buttrills Community Centre on Wednesdays at 5.30pm and 7.30pm and Saturdays at 7.30, 9.30 and 11.30am

'Remembering last walk of Jesus to Calvary' Good Friday 'March of Witness' in Penarth



The March of Witness took place through Penarth on Good Friday.

THE annual March of Witness organised by Penarth Cytûn (Council of Churches) took place in cloudy conditions on Good Friday in Penarth.

The march went

ahead with the help of the stewards in their orange jackets, and was organised by John Squire.

The marchers were met with a respectful response from the shoppers on Windsor Road and the tolerance of motorists, whose journeys were delayed

at the roundabout and crossroads.

The procession which had started from the top of Arcot Street, went along Plassey Street, Glebe Street, Windsor Road and Stanwell Road and finally ended on the lawns of West House.

There were more

than 200 marchers and the final service was delivered by the Chair of Cytûn, Rev Phyl Fanning who had led the march behind the cross carrier Christian Vaughan-Morris.

The Mayor of Penarth, Coun Mike Cuddy, read the Gospel message and following the singing of the final hymn, 'When I survey the wondrous cross', the Rev Fanning thanked everyone for their support in the silent act of witness as the Christians of Penarth remembered the last walk of Jesus to Calvary, to die for the sins of the world.

There were fewer attending the 'Sonrise Service' led by Rev Phyl Fanning on the cliffs at the top of the Esplanade on Easter Day, but they were rewarded with the most glorious sunrise.

The sound for both services was organised by Graham Niblett, who has been supporting this for more than 30 years - which is a remarkable record of commitment and consistent early rising!

RNLI calling on public to 'Push the Boat Out'

THE RNLI is calling on the public to Push The Boat Out on Saturday, May 13 by supporting the charity's national annual fundraising event - Mayday.

The RNLI has set a challenge for supporters to push an Arancia lifeboat around Cardiff's International Sport Stadium for 12 hours on May 13.

This is the first challenge of its kind set by the RNLI in Wales as the charity aims to raise £750,000 throughout the month of May to help kit the volunteer lifeboat crews across the coast.

The RNLI is asking people to 'do your bit, fund our kit' this May Day and anyone who wishes to get involved in Push the Boat Out can sign up at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/push-the-boat-out-tickets-33275712552.

A total of £25 per person will be required from each team member to register, as well as a minimum of £25 per person in sponsorship for their efforts.

Jen Abell, RNLI Community Fundraising Manager said: "Push the Boat Out is a great opportunity for community groups, corporate companies or friends and family to test their teamwork as they push an Arancia lifeboat - like the ones used by the RNLI's lifeguards - around the track."

"Last year, RNLI lifeboat crews in Wales launched 1,185 times, rescuing 1,162 people and saving 73 lives."

"RNLI volunteer lifeboat crews around the UK and Ireland are willing to drop everything to go and save lives at sea when their pagers beep. The May Day campaign is our own call for help, as we rely on the generosity of the public to help us continue our lifesaving service, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year."

For more information or to sign up for the event visit: rnl.org/mayday/events/2017/may/rnli-mayday-push-the-boat-out-challenge-event-and-family-fun-day.



CABARET NIGHT

**Sunday
30th April**

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CELEBRATING NATIONAL PET MONTH AND OUR SPECIAL LOVED-ONES

NATIONAL PET MONTH runs from April 1 until May 1 and to celebrate it The GEM asked readers to send in images of their dogs and cats.

The idea behind National Pet Month is to encourage responsible ownership and support for animal charities.

We had a magnificent response – and many GEM readers were keen to point out that our beloved pets all have their own personalities and endearing traits.

We will endeavour to get in as many images as possible over the next few weeks.



This is Sharon Blake's three-year-old Staffordshire Bull terrier 'Sally socks' from Llantwit Major enjoying a lovely, sunny day.



James Crosbie's Jack Russell, Toto loves playing football.



David Moore's Bassett-Dachshund cross. Lola (or Smiler!) is really chilled out.



Chris and David Swidenbank from Porthcawl love their Dogs Trust rescue dogs Maisey, a black and white crossbreed, and Pippa a black crossbreed. It's great to see rescue dogs arrive in a happy home.



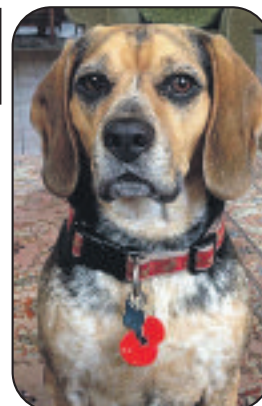
Dawn Snowden-Hunt's Jess enjoying a day out in the country.



Mr and Mrs Jones of Peterston-Super-Ely love Lucy their six-month-old cat.



Tracey Bristow's happy dog Bonnie.



Another image of the aptly named Poppy!



Lianne Young's cat and dog, Willow, the half-Bengal, and Poppy the Beagle, love cuddling up to each other



Chris Goring from Barry told The GEM: "This is Lucky. She is a nine-year-old rescued Lurcher. As you can see from the attached shot she likes her home comforts!"



Sisters Holly and Abbie Allen, who live in St Athan, love Smudge. They say: "He's three years old and a complete character."



Neville and Jennifer Young have two miniature Schnauzers. Pixie Lott is sitting astride Lola.



Silistria Jennings' Jack Russell, Buttons is five years old and 'loves getting into trouble'.



Ceri Watts said: "This is my dog Dot and you can see she's a unique breed! This image was taken during a walk in Porthkerry woods."

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SHOW PROVIDES A MEMORABLE WEEKEND

THE Royal Horticultural Show in Cardiff heralded the start of the gardening season.

The festival ran from April 7 to April 9, and there was lots to excite and inspire garden lovers.

It is the society's first major outdoor show of the 2017 season.

Among the visitors were people from the Vale and Bridgend.

Photographer Glyn Evans was on hand to capture some of the special images of the weekend, and the people who were enjoying it.

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting: E-Mail: ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk
Telephone 07791 228684 www.ffotoimage.co.uk



MERCHED Y WAWR LEARNS ABOUT THE WORLD OF FASHION

FOR the April Ym mis Ebrill meeting, Merched Y trefnwyd ymweliad Wawr arranged a â siop ffasiwn visit by 'Bethan Jones ar y Bethan Jones ar y Jones Fashions' on Stryd Fawr yn Y Bont-faen lle'r oedd Bethan wedi paratoi'n drylwyr ar ein cyfer.

Bethan welcomed members with a glass of wine and Welsh cakes, while she outlined her career in the world of fashion.

A native of Ammanford, Bethan followed a course in fashion at Carmarthenshire College. Her first job was as a cutter for Slimma and she subsequently went on to work in different roles for Dewhurst and Marks and Spencer.

When she became technical director of fashion for M&S, she travelled the world to train people on the production of quality clothes.

Five years ago, Bethan ventured into clothes production under her own label and opened a shop in Carmarthen. A year ago, she opened her second shop in Cowbridge.

Carol, one of Bethan's clients, modelled clothes made for her for a range of occasions and Val modelled clothes sold in the shop.

This gave the group an opportunity to examine the fine materials and admire the work at close range.

The group also visited the workshop above the showroom, where Bethan explained the process of producing bespoke garments.

Merched y Wawr thanked Bethan for giving a warm welcome and for planning an interesting evening.

Ymlaen â hi wedyn i gyflawni gwahanol swyddi i gwmnïau Dewhurst a Marks and Spencer lle daeth yn Gyfarwyddwr Technegol Ffasiwn gan deithio'r byd yn hyfforddi pobl ar sut i gynhyrchu dillad o ansawdd da.

Pum mlynedd yn ôl penderfynodd fynd ar ei liwt ei hun gan agor siop yng Nghaerfyrddin i gynhyrchu dillad dan label Bethan Jones. Y llynedd agorodd ei hail siop yn Y Bontfaen. Roedd dwy fodel yno i arddangos y dillad yn eu holl ogoniant.

Carol, un o gleientiaid Bethan, a fodelodd dillad a gynhyrchwyd iddi hi'n bersonol ar gyfer gwahanol aclysuron ynghyd â Val a fodelodd dillad a werthir yn y siop. Rhoddodd hyn gyfle i ni gyffwrdd â'r deunyddiau cain ac edmygu'r gwneuthuriad cywrair. Cawsom wedyn ymweld â'r gweithdy uwchben y siop lle cynhyrchir dillad sy'n unigryw i bob cleient.

Mawr yw ein diolch i Bethan am ein croesawu mor gynnes ac am baratoi noswaith hynod o ddiddorol ar ein cyfer.

Plan ahead to spare your family concern at a later time

PLANNING for later life is not an easy thing to do, but it can be reassuring to know that you've taken care of your funeral arrangements in advance.

This enables you to relax knowing that your family will be spared difficult decisions and unexpected financial obligations. Therefore, taking out a plan is one of the most sensible things you can do for your family and can

provide real financial benefits by securing funeral directors' fees at today's prices.

We offer bespoke pre-paid funeral plans from Ecclesiastical Planning Services, tailored to your personal wishes and including a contribution for the specific disbursement elements you require.

Call in to Penarth Funeral Directors, Hickman Road Funeral Home for information or request details by calling 02920 703581.

Penarth Funeral Directors

Hickman Road Funeral Home



AVERAGE COSTS INCLUDE:
Coffin, Hearse, Limousine, Robe, Bearers, Grave or Cremation, Church, Minister & Doctor's Fees

No charge for services not required

Cremation - Threnhill £3,275

Cremation - Barry £3,450

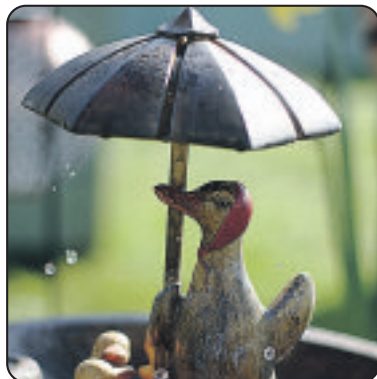
Burial - Penarth £3,350

Burial - Barry £3,440

No Hidden Costs

02920 703581

Supporting local charities with monthly donations



CHARITY FISHING COMPETITION IN LLANTWIT MAJOR

Llantwit Major Charity Fishing Open 2017

Sunday 30th April 2017

Hosted by Country Stores, Gowerton



*All proceeds from
Entry & Raffle
go to chosen charity
'Jade's Wish to Walk'.*

1st Prize - £250

(Donated by Mark & Kelly of Q-Fished Llandow)

2nd Prize - £100

(Donated by Maria Hughes of Llantwit Major Beach Cafe)

3rd Prize - £75

(Donated by Mike Clemetts of Llandow)

and as always many other table prizes!!!

Fishing 2pm - 6.30pm. Weigh in at Beach Cafe.

(All cards must be in by 7.30pm).

Pre-book: Barry Angling/Anglers Supplies/Bobs Tackle/Garry Evans/Fishing World/Holton Road Angling/Keens.

Book in on the day: Llantwit Major Beach Cafe from 9am.

Boundaries: Summerhouse Look Out Point, Boverton to High Ledges at Marcross (Minimum fish sizes on cards).

GARRY EVANS Penn Points & Garry Evans Sea Master Qualifier

• £10 entry plus optional pool £1 (Heaviest Rockling). Juniors free entry under 16.

• Special prize for 'No fish' card - must be claimed at weigh in personally!

• Don't forget The Raffle!

All enquiries Mark Cowell on 07721 791210

This is a catch, weigh and release competition - all fish can be weighed & returned - to be weighed in kilos on digital scales & fish card signed by bona fide participating angler.

THE first 2017 Llantwit Major charity fishing competition takes place on Sunday, April 30, to raise funds for Jade Owen and Jade's Wish To Walk.

Jade was born with spastic-mixed cerebral palsy affecting all of her limbs but mainly her legs. All cash raised from the entry and raffle will go towards helping buy a special walker which Jade needs to strengthen her legs before her next big operation in America - Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy - to reduce the spasticity in her legs.

As always, huge support has been received from local businesses and anglers and special thanks must go to Mark and Kelly of Q-Fished Llandow for donating the first prize of £250, Marie Hughes of Llantwit Major Beach Cafe for donating second prize of £100, and Mike Clemett of Squirrel Wales Llandow for donating the third prize of £75.

Raffle prizes have been donated by Filco Foods, The New Best Kebab and Ben's Barbers and there are lots of other prizes up for grabs!

Anglers can pre-book at Barry Angling, Anglers Supplies, Bob's Tackle, Garry Evans, Fishing World, Holton Road Angling and Keens or at Llantwit Major Beach Cafe on the morning from 9am and enjoy a hearty cooked breakfast before the competition.

If anyone has any enquiries please contact Mark on 07721 791210 or Sally on 07773 273885.

SO

Bonny bonnets!



A carnival of colour at Barry Library as youngsters put on their bonnets.



THE Easter bonnet parade and competition (above pictures) took place at Barry Library on April 15, where a creative range of Easter bonnets was on display. Everyone was a winner.

Are you running an 'innovative' event? HELP MAY BE AT HAND!

UP to £3,000 of funding could be available for organisers looking to deliver new and innovative events in the Vale.

In order to qualify for funding, organisers will need to demonstrate to a council panel that their event will meet certain criteria - such as showing the potential to attract visitors from outside of the area.

The council has previously supported a number of successful events, and the local authority is now keen to broaden the offer for 2017-18 by lending a helping hand to new independent events in order to help them grow. Organisers who wish to apply for funding for events taking place before the end of March 2018 should contact the Vale Council's events team by emailing sejones@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or visiting www.visitthevale.com/events

All event grant applications will be reviewed regularly by the panel until all of the funds have been allocated to the successful applicants.

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

**(LLWYBR TROED RHIF 2 PEN-MARC)
(CAU DROS DRO) 2017**

Ar 20 Ebrill 2017, gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) Orchymyn a fydd yn gorfodi'r hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodleni isod:

Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 20 Ebrill 2017 ac fe'i gelwir yn "Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg Llwybr Troed Rhif 2 Pen-marc (Cau Dros Dro) 2017".

Os ydych chi gwestiynu dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu'r darpariaethau ynddo ar y sail nad ydynt yn unol â'r pwerau a ddyfarnwyd gan y Ddeddf uchod neu ar y sail na cydymffurfirwyd ag unrhyw un o ofynion y Ddeddf, neu unrhyw offeryn a wnaed dan y Ddeddf mewn perthynas â'r Gorchymyn, gallwch, o fewn chwe wythnos o 20 Ebrill 2017, wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys at y diben hwn.

ATODLEN 1

Ni chaiff unrhyw gerdded yn y lleoliadau a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad Llwybr troed (Hawl Dramwy Gyhoeddus) a elwir yn Ben-marc Rhif 2 rhwng grid 306021 165779 a thua'r gorllewin i grid 305112 165911

Llwybr Arall Pan fydd yr hysbysiad hwn ar waith bydd gwyrdd ar gyfer cerddwyr sy'n teithio tua'r gorllewin ar hyd llwybr troed Rhif 1 Pen-marc o grid 306021 165779 tua'r gogledd i Station Road, yna droi i'r chwith i Stewart Road, yna droi i'r chwith i Fontygary Road, ac yna barhau ar hyd y ffordd hon i'r ffordd fynediad i Faes Carafanau Fontygary Bay, yna barhau ar hyd llwybr troed Rhif 1 Pen-marc i ben gorllewinol y llwybr sydd ar gau wrth grid 305112 165911, ac i'r gwrthwyneb.

Rheswm Atal niwed i gerddwyr yn sgil creigiau'n disgyn o ymyl y clogwyn

Hyd O 00.01 ar 20 Ebrill 2017 am gyfnod hyd at chwe mis

Dyddiedig 20 Ebrill 2017.

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Yr Alpau, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.



THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

**(PENMARK PUBLIC FOOTPATH No 2)
(TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2017**

On the 20th April 2017 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:

The Order shall come into force on 20th April 2017 and will be known as 'The Vale of Glamorgan Council Penmark Public Footpath No 2 (Temporary Closure) Order 2017'.

If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 20th April 2017 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

SCHEDULE 1

No person shall proceed on foot in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location Footpath (Public Rights of Way) known as Penmark Number 2 between grid 306021 165779 and continuing in a westerly direction to grid 305112 165911

Alt Route During this closure a diversion for westbound pedestrians shall be available via footpath known as Penmark No 1 from grid 306021 165779 in a northerly direction to Station Road, then turning left into Stewart Road, then turning left into Fontygary Road, and continuing along this road to the access road into Fontygary Bay Caravan Park, then continuing along footpath known as Penmark No 3, to the western end of the closure at grid 305112 165911, and vice-versa.

Reason To prevent danger to pedestrians as a result of cliff edge rock falls

Duration From 00.01 on 20th April 2017 for a maximum period of 6 months

Dated this 20th day of April 2017.

M. E. Punter,
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.



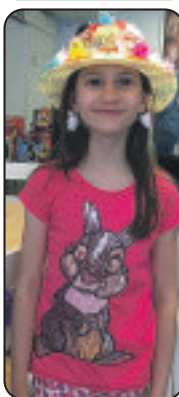
JOY OF EASTER AT HIGH STREET AS YOUNGSTERS ENJOY ANNUAL PARADE

ONE of Barry's great traditions is the annual Easter Bonnet Parade in High Street.

This year the judges were Jane Hutt AM, Alun Cairns MP and the Glamorgan GEM's very own Jan Irving.

Photographer Kevin Moore captured the key moments in what was a splendid day.

Report and photographs by
KEVIN MOORE
PHOTOGRAPHY
07785 535572



What's on, and where?

Farmers' Market

THE next Farmers' Market at Porthcawl will be this Saturday, April 22 at the Griffin Park Community Hall in New Road, Porthcawl.

We will have a good selection of locally produced foods including bread, cakes and pastries from Cerdin Foods and a range of top quality organic meat from Penrhif Farm. There will also be a range of local crafts available at the market.

Councillors' surgery

DYFAN ward councillors Claire Curtis and Anthony Powell will hold a residents' surgery in Highlight Park Community Centre at 10am on Saturday, April 22.

All residents are welcome to attend, no appointment necessary.

Barry Museum Barry at War Museum holds its spring model show on Sunday, April 23.

It will feature many models produced by the south Wales branch of the Miniature Armoured Fighting Vehicles Association, which attends modelling exhibitions across the UK and the continent. Other models will be on display including aircraft and ships.

Anyone interested in plastic modelling will be able to try constructing some models for themselves.

The model show opens at 1pm at the Barry

at War Museum at Barry Island Railway Station. Admission is free and refreshments will be available.

Porthcawl art and craft

THE Coast Art and Craft Group meets every Tuesday at Daddy's Diner in Dock Street, Porthcawl at 10.30am and also at the Pavilion Cafe Bar every Thursday morning. Call in and see us!

Home improvement help

IF you would like free and impartial advice on cutting your energy bills, find out if you are eligible for free home improvement grants through the Welsh Government NEST programme.

Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a session at the Age Connects Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, April 25 at 10am to 12pm.

No appointment is needed, just come along and have a chat to one of the NEST advisers. Call 01446 732385 for further information; home visits can be arranged on 0800 8082244.

Help with independent living

IF you are a carer and need advice on acquiring aids to make life easier; or wish to live independently, Age Connects are holding an informal advice session at the Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on April 25 from 10am to 12pm.

Snowdrops Independent Living will give you help on stair lifts, home adaptations, mobility aids etc. They can give advice to householders, carers and relatives to help solve the difficulties of independent living.

Contact 01446 732385 for further information.

Barry Floral Society

'JOYS of Spring' is the title of the demonstration for members of the Barry Floral Society by Mrs Sue Blandford of Usk on Tuesday, April 25 at 2.15pm at St Nicholas Hall, St Nicholas Road, Barry. New members always welcome.

Valeways walks

ON Tuesday, April 25 at 1.30pm, 'Spring Lambs and Coastal Views' starting at Dinas Powys Common, opposite Twynwyn.

On Wednesday, April 26 at 9.45am, 'Legends', starting at the Horse and Jockey pub, Wenvoe, CF5 6BG.

On April 26 at 10.30am, the Cosmeston coffee shop strollers meet outside the visitor centre at Cosmeston Country Park.

Also on April 26 at 2.30pm, the Llantwit Major coffee shop strollers meet at Llantwit Major town hall car park.

On Sunday, April 30 at 2pm, 'Coastal Path and Park', starting at the cliff top car park, Penarth.

Age Connects spring Fair

THE Age Connects Senior Health Shop at

38 Holton Road, Barry will hold a spring fair on Thursday, April 27.

This takes place from 10am to 12pm with free admission. Jane Hutt AM will open the fair and there will be a wide range of attractive stalls including cakes, craft and homemade goods, bric-a-brac, books etc with bargains for all.

Refreshments are available, with a grand prize draw, tickets 20p. All proceeds of the fair will go to the Senior Health Shop.

Gardening Club

C O W B R I D G E Gardening Club members are reminded that the AGM, plant sale and quiz will be held on Thursday, April 27 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall, Cowbridge.

GVS 'Directory of Services'

DID you know there is a range of voluntary and community groups working in the Vale, all providing support in the community?

Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) works with over 700 voluntary and community organisations, which provide many different services. So, how do you find out more about what is available in the community?

GVS has produced a Directory of Services for Older People and a Directory of Services for Carers. Both are available on our website at www.gvs.wales/support-for-groups/health-social-care-wellbeing/directories-of-services.

There are also other directories, including one for mental health services and one for learning disability services. You can also search the Dewis Cymru website, www.dewis.wales, for information about what is available locally.

GVS: 01446 741706, email: enquiries@gvs.wales Website: www.gvs.wales

Miss Junior Teen to represent Vale in national title

JAZ CUGGY has won the title of Miss Junior Teen Vale of Glamorgan and a place in the grand final of Miss Junior Teen Great Britain 2017.

Jaz, from Cowbridge, has beaten hundreds of teens from across the country to make it to the grand final.

She said: "I am so excited to have made it to the final - it is a great achievement. The support I have had so far has been phenomenal."

The winner of Miss Junior Teen Great Britain will walk away with prizes including £500, dresses from The Dress Studio and a sparkling sash and crown.

The final takes place



Jaz Cuggy will compete in the national final of Miss Junior Teen later in the year.

on October 22 at The Globe in Blackpool. The finalists will enjoy activities such as a beauty queen challenge day and a pajama diva party at the Village Hotel.

Jaz has received sponsorship from Organic Smile Teeth, Aruba Beauty Salon, Nicky Lawrence-Millard for makeup at appearances and Jessica Caldwell for acrylics.

Alongside the excitement of appearing in the finals, Jaz will be making appearances at charity events, shop openings and agricultural shows. Jaz is still seeking sponsors for the final, so if anyone is interested, email JazCuggy@aol.com

Jaz will be raising money for her chosen charity, Together for Short Lives, where donations can be made at <https://www.justgiving.com/mfundraising/jazcuggy> MTGBsemifinalist.



Litter picking on Barry Island Promenade - volunteers love meeting up and doing something useful for the community.

Hafod's 'Walk and talk' is good for individuals and community

HAFOD Care provides a support service for vulnerable people based at Golau Caredig in Barry.

Staff members work with residents who live at Golau, and also work in the community. The walk and talk group was started in January 2017 with the aim of promoting health and wellbeing and preventing isolation.

A spokesman explained: "Within the group they also thought it would be good to give a little something back to the local community and the idea of litter picking was suggested."

"They meet the last Thursday of every month at the café Bay 5 on

Barry Island Promenade, and everyone is more than welcome. You can join in with as much or as little as you want to. Their aim is to make new friends, get fit and look after the environment while having fun!"

Debbie Bywater told The GEM: "If you don't fancy litter picking just come along for the walk and chat, if you don't fancy the walk just come along for the chat! It is just lovely to see people getting together and enjoying themselves."

So why not join them the last Thursday of every month between 1pm - 3pm. If you have any questions or would like more information, call the support team on 01446 731945.

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

GORCHYMYN (CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) ((RHAN O) PARK ROAD A (RHAN O) HARBOUR ROAD) Y BARRI 2017

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, yn bwriadu, o fewn dim llai na saith diwrnod o ddyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn, wneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn gwneud yr hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlen isod: -

ATODLEN 1

1. Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi neu'n caniatáu i gerbyd modur deithio yn y lleoliad a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad Bydd **Park Road**, y Barri ar gau o'r gyffordd â St Nicholas Road a Park Crescent am 20m tua'r gorllewin.

Llwybr Arall Bydd gwyriadau lleol ag arwyddion ar gyfer traffig sy'n teithio tua'r dwyrain ar waith ar hyd y rhan o Park Road, Romilly Park Road a St Nicholas Road sydd dal ar agor pan fo'r hysbysiad hwn ar waith.

Bydd gwyriadau lleol ag arwyddion ar gyfer traffig sy'n teithio tua'r gorllewin ar hyd St Nicholas Road, Park Avenue, rhan "un ffordd" Harbour Road, hyd at The Ship Hotel, rhan "un ffordd" St Nicholas Road, Romilly Park Road, a'r rhan o Park Road sydd dal ar agor pan fo'r hysbysiad hwn ar waith.

Lleoliad 2 Bydd Harbour Road, y Barri ar gau o'r gyffordd â St Nicholas Road a Park Crescent am 15m tua'r dwyrain.

Llwybr Arall Bydd gwyriadau lleol ag arwyddion ar hyd y rhan o Harbour Road a Cannon Street sydd dal ar agor pan fo'r hysbysiad hwn ar waith

Rheswm Galluogi gwaith adnewyddu'r Prif Bibelli Nwy.

Hyd O 08.00 dydd Llun 8 Mai 2017 am hyd at 18 mis er y disgwyllir cwblhau'r gwaith erbyn 22 Mai 2017.

DS: Sicrhier mynediad i gerddwyr bob amser.

Dyddiedig 20 Ebrill 2017.

M. E. Punter, Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Yr Alpau, Gwnefö. CF5 6AA.



THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

(PARK ROAD (PART) AND HARBOUR ROAD (PART)) BARRY (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2017

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location 1 Park Road, Barry will be closed from its junction with St Nicholas Road and Park Crescent for a distance of 20m in a westerly direction.

Alt Route Signed local diversions for eastbound traffic shall be in place via the remaining open section of Park Road, Romilly Park Road and St Nicholas Road during the time of the closure.

Signed local diversions for westbound traffic shall be in place via St Nicholas Road, Park Avenue, the "one way" section of Harbour Road, as far as The Ship Hotel, the "one way" section of St Nicholas Road, Romilly Park Road, and the remaining open section of Park Road during the time of the closure.

Location 2 Harbour Road, Barry will be closed from its junction with St Nicholas Road and Park Crescent for a distance of 15m in an easterly direction.

Alt Route Signed local diversions via the remaining open section of Harbour Road and Cannon Street shall be in place during the time of the closure.

Reason To allow Gas Main refurbishment works to take place.

Duration From 08.00Hrs on Monday 8th May 2017 for a maximum period of 18 months although the works are anticipated to be completed by 22nd May 2017

NB: Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times.

Dated this 20th day of April 2017.

M. E. Punter, Director of Environment & Housing Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.



Brexit is 'democratic will of the people'

IN response to Mr Evans' letter in last week's GEM, entitled 'Brexit: Britain has inflicted much self harm'.

Whatever side you stood for on the Brexit Referendum, you wanted a clear and massive majority, and sadly that wasn't so. The turnout to vote was massive, the majority was, however, greater than that which initiated the Welsh Assembly.

The Referendum was indeed brought to the country by the Tories as an election manifesto pledge, although the campaign and 'Project Fear' was a cross-party thing.

The PM Theresa May herself campaigned for the Remain side, as did our MP, Alun Cairns. To their credit and many other former Remainers' credit, they are now carrying out the democratic will of the majority of the country who could be bothered to vote and drove through Brexit.

Many Labour majority areas, such as the Welsh valleys voted overwhelmingly in favour of leaving the EU, although that fact

seems lost on some of their MPs.

I don't believe the result will be perfect, nor do I believe that we have the right people negotiating it, but whatever the result is, it will be one made by us here in Britain, and not one imposed upon us by EU bureaucrats and Frau Merkel et al.

As a country we need to look at Brexit as a positive.

Yes; Britain is a trading nation, but not all of our businesses are exporters to the EU. Under their rules however, which have been lobbied for by big business, every business in the EU has to conform. For some that is financially unviable, giving the advantage to big businesses at the expense of small local traders.

Brexit is now happening, and everyone has bated breath as to how the negotiations will play out, but with the amount of EU-made cars on the roads, I have faith that we will find a positive solution for Britain. Trade figures so far prove this.

Ade Pitman, Independent candidate, Cadoc Ward.

Cats Protection Easter egg day



AN 'eggstravaganza' held at Cats Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre raised over £2,000 and helped rehome nine cats for the charity.

The event, held on April 8 at the centre was a reportedly a great success, with more than 350 people attending the fun filled day. The Easter egg hunt and hook-a-duck were big hits with the children, while adults browsed the stalls and relaxed in the sun enjoying burgers, homemade cakes and refreshments.

The event was an opportunity for people to meet and make friends with the cats in the charity's care in need of loving homes.

Audrey Inkpen (96) who used to volunteer for the centre and is a long-standing supporter said: "The centre is my favourite place to visit, I love coming here on open days and seeing all the cats."

Bethan Potts, deputy manager who organised the event said: "We had great support on the day so we'd like to thank everyone who came along and supported us. If we didn't receive such wonderful support from our local community, so many more cats would needlessly remain homeless."

Susan Dobbs, centre manager said: "We had lots of lovely feedback from visitors to the event, it's great to see everyone enjoying themselves."

Photos by Susan Dobbs Photography, at www.susandobbsphotography.co.uk.



'We will cut councillors' pay and re-invest savings'

LAST week, the Welsh Conservatives launched their campaign to create a Brackla that works for everyone.

If elected to form the next council, we will reverse Bridgend Labour's one per cent cut in funding to the school budget, meaning schools in Brackla can continue to invest in the future of young people. We want to make sure that young people have the best standard of education possible and the ability to reach their full potential.

We will re-consider the council's unfair plan to impose the 'two black bag rule' and the ability to fine households that have more than two black bags a fortnight.

Instead, we will introduce a recycling incentive scheme: rather than penalising residents, we want to work with them to develop a rubbish collection and recycling policy that meets the needs of everyone.

We will never vote to increase your council tax, meaning residents are able to keep more of their own

money. While Labour has consistently increased council tax, we believe that by promoting more efficient services the council can save money which can be used to freeze council tax.

We will also cut councillors' pay by 10 per cent and introduce a performance-related element of pay to make sure that we represent people to the best of our ability, while saving money that can be re-invested into vital local services.

In a few weeks' time, you will have a clear choice – to vote for a stale, divided Labour-led council propped up by 'Independents' (who lack any consistent policies to form a strong council) that will not deliver the change that both Brackla and Bridgend needs. Or you can vote for your local Welsh Conservative candidate.

The only way to guarantee this is to ensure that Brackla has four Welsh Conservative councillors come May 4. **Tyler Walsh, Kay Rowlands, Tom Giffard and Aniel Pucella, Welsh Conservative Candidates for Brackla.**

Porthcawl Bridge Club

LATEST results from the Porthcawl Bridge Club are as follows.

Saturday April 1: first – Roger Draper and Connie Dick; second – Peter and Sandie Jenkins.

Thursday, April 6: first – Tony Haworth and Keith Davison; second – Rob Charlesworth and John Beard.

Saturday, April 8: first – Connie Dick and Roger Draper; second – Peter

and Sandie Jenkins.

Thursday, April 13: first – Terry Dolan and Roger Plant; second – Tony Haworth and Keith Davison.

The club meets twice a week, on Saturday and Thursday at the Awel-y-Mor centre at 7pm – 10.15pm. Visitors welcome at any time.

To contact the club, call secretary Trish on 01656 785794.

TH

Nathaniel Mitsubishi, Bridgend rated among top UK car dealers

A MITSUBISHI dealership in Bridgend is celebrating after a survey conducted by Auto Express magazine revealed it to be in the top five per cent of car dealers in the UK.

Nathaniel Mitsubishi, on David Street, Bridgend Industrial Estate, scored a rating of 7.9 out of 10 to be included in the leading automotive magazine's top 1,000 list of car dealers.

Compiled in conjunction with Driver Power and data analyst Statista, and based on the results of polled customers and peer-to-peer recommendations, the

survey saw more than 20,000 new and used car dealers scored on quality of advice, price and overall satisfaction.

Commenting on the survey, Steve Fowler, Editor-in-Chief of Auto Express, said: "Finding a good, trustworthy dealer can be a big problem for car owners. So this survey provides them with a clear idea of local garages that will provide a high level of service at a decent price."

Wayne Griffiths, of Nathaniel Mitsubishi, said: "We were delighted to see ourselves ranked in the top 1,000 car dealerships in the country and it confirms that our efforts to provide an excellent customer experience are certainly working."

On Nathaniel Mitsubishi and other Mitsubishi dealerships being included in the list, Toby Marshall, sales and marketing director, Mitsubishi Motors in the UK, said: "I would like to congratulate our dealers who made Auto Express' top 1,000 car dealerships."

"Considering the sheer volume of car dealerships in the country, to be included in the list is a fantastic achievement and our dealers can feel proud that the service they provide is recognised to be among the best around."

To contact Nathaniel Mitsubishi, visit them on David Street, Bridgend Industrial Estate, or call 01656 662255.

Europe is calling for the Penarth Hockey Club firsts!

PENARTH Hockey Club's recent resurgence has led to a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity to represent Wales at the highest level of European competition, but time is of the essence to raise the funds needed to compete successfully.

Back-to-back GoCrea8 league titles and promotions, as well as the chance to repeat as Welsh Trophy winners later this month, have earned the first XI an invitation to the EuroHockey Club Challenge in the Ukraine at the start of June, but

the timing of the opportunity means that the race is now on to secure as much of the estimated £7,500 travel expenses as possible. Penarth have been slotted in Pool A of an eight-team tournament to be staged in Vinnitsa in west-central Ukraine between June 1-5. The draw pits the Bears against opposition from Belarus, Croatia and the Czech Republic, while the host club tackles rivals from Portugal, Denmark and Bulgaria in the other group.

"This is an opportunity that doesn't come along very often," PHC player-coach Ben Croxall commented. "Competing in Europe would be a notable first in the club's history and, naturally, we would love

to showcase the obvious talent of our players and coaches on the biggest stage we have yet been offered."

Travel plans are currently being prepared for an 18-man playing squad, with return flights to Kiev and four nights' accommodation in Vinnitsa being the principal costs facing the Bears.

The club is hoping to attract sponsors to help alleviate some of the financial burden, but have already formulated a number of money-raising ideas, including setting up a crowdfunding page, which can be found at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/Penarthhockeyclub>.

"Penarth is one of hockey's modern success

stories, an organisation with a long history that is now back on the road to the highest echelons of the sport thanks to the commitment of a group of determined individuals," Croxall continued.

"Hard work on and off the pitch over the past two seasons has resulted in back-to-back league titles and successive promotions for the first XI - as well as similar success at lower levels - and the invitation to compete in Europe represents the next step along the road to restoring the club's former glories."

"The club is already planning numerous activities to raise money for the cause, but needs an extra push towards achieving its target."

"This is an opportunity, not only to make it an event to remember for everyone involved with the club, but also to make history for both Penarth and Wales, so any offers of support would be warmly welcomed."

Penarth's first XI will next be in action as they look to defend their Welsh Trophy title against Cardiff University at the Welsh Institute of Sport (Sophia Gardens) on Sunday, April 30 (10am start).

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability.

When the regular season resumes, training will take place on Wednesdays at Stanwell School, with the juniors on the pitch between 6.15pm and 7.15pm and the seniors between 7pm and 8.15pm.

Anyone interested in joining the club at senior or youth level can contact club secretary Dave Stevens (d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

HD

CL

Barry Yacht Club opens its doors to 'social membership'



Pictured (from right) is long standing club member Ray Brown with new members Ruth and Howell Isaac and Ruth's daughter Lindsey Brown, who is married to Ray's son, Sam.

NO boat? No worries! There are few establishments on Barry Island where folk are able to enjoy a drink and take in a beautiful Channel view.

Barry Yacht Club, in an enviable position overlooking the harbour and Jackson's Bay, is one of them, but these pleasures have until now only been available to full, boat owning or associate members, or to members of the public who have visited the club for an event.

For the first time in its 89 years, Barry Yacht Club has opened the door to social membership. On a

recent Friday, a new social members' get together was attended by around 60 people, a mix of prospective and current members. The atmosphere in the club was buzzing!

New members discovered the benefits of becoming a BYC member which include preferential bar and ticket prices for events at the club... and those views!

If you'd like more information on applying for membership at Barry Yacht Club, get in touch on bycsecretary@hotmail.co.uk, or call 01446 735511.

Facebook: Barry Yacht Club, Twitter: @BarryYacht.

Lee Selby presents Welsh rugby team with shirts



Picture by Liam Hartery.

LEE SELBY, IBF Featherweight world champion boxer was honoured to present under-18 Welsh rugby team with their new shirts before their recent game against Ireland.

Lee told the players to keep disciplined and focused, and went on to explain how discipline and commitment are key in the pursuit of your dream.

CHRIS HARTERY

PG10 win international cup



PG10 celebrated Easter in style winning the Manchester International Cup.

The tournament which was played over two days featured teams from across the world from countries such as Malta, South Africa, France, Norway and Spain.

The under-9s were victorious, beating Maltese side Paola Academy on penalties in the final, the under-12s came third and the

under-8s played in a fun festival.

Peter Griffiths of PG10 said: "We are thrilled for the children in what has been a superb season to date, we push for our players to play against international teams as it helps with their development and a great life experience."

"This season has seen a record number of players get snapped up by professional football club academies - already five players have gone to Premier League clubs. Four former players have

also achieved international honours with Wales and England."

PG10 now travel to Spain to link in with Malaga FC, visiting and playing against the Spanish club, visiting their academy first team training ground and stadium but also provide the players with the unique opportunity to watch Malaga FC v Real Madrid.

PG10 have holding open days on the June 17/18 - to book on to the days please go to www.aventixuk.com.

PG

The Vale of Glamorgan Football League round-up

EASTER Saturday saw Premier Division champions and cup finalists decided with plenty of action along the way.

Vale United were finally crowned Premier Division Champions as they followed up a midweek 2-1 win over St Athan with a 4-2 victory over Island Marine thanks to goals from Ryan Jenkins, Owyn Poole (2) and Jack Dummett.

Having won every one of their league fixtures so far United are deserved champions. Now their attention turns to completing a flawless season, maintaining their 100 per cent record in the league and compete an exceptional treble with ASRS and Barry Cup finals coming up.

Elsewhere in the Premier Division, St Athan got back to winning ways with a 3-1 win against Masons Moving Group away at Severn Avenue with Josh Morgan, James Austin and Bradley Young notching. Barry Athletic's impressive late season resurgence continued with a big 5-1 over Penarth Town, Ben Jones, Nathan Gratton and a Kyle Caton hat trick securing the impressive win.

Division One's Supporters' Cup finally saw the semi-finals played, as Barry Athletic B edged Sully 3-2 after extra time with skipper Spencer Price, Lewis Marsh and Dan Morgan ensuring a place in the final. At Jenner Park they will play SP Billy who

defeated Pumas 3-2. The final will now be played this Sunday, April 23, 2.15pm kick-off at Jenner Park.

In other league action, in Division One Barry Belgrade closed the gap on Barry Athletic B to five points with a game in hand with a 2-1 win over Cardiff Airport B. Cadoxton Barry B got their first win in four, and in some style, as the second bottom club demolished the bottom side Glenbrook 10-2.

In Division Two, the title race was blown wide open as third place Penarth Town B thumped leaders Cadoxton Imps 5-1. Barry Saints followed up on their Dockers Cup win last week with a 7-2 triumph over BV.

Barry Saints and Penarth B are both now four points behind Imps and both have a game in hand on the leaders. Rhosee B continued their excellent form with a 1-0 victory over Island Marine B and Pumas B secured their first win league since September with a 1-0 win against St Athan B.

This week it's the Supporters' Cup final as Barry Athletic B will play SP Billy. In league action Rhosee host champions Vale United in the Premier Division, in Division One Pumas host title hopefuls Barry Belgrade and in Division Two it's a crunch title clash as the top two collide, with Cadoxton Imps playing Barry Saints, and Penarth B looking to capitalise on any slip.



PORTHCAWL RFC YOUNG ONES ENJOY A GREAT FIRST YEAR OF RUGBY ACTION!

WHAT an amazing first season it has been for Porthcawl RFC under-7s rugby team!

We started our journey together during

the summer last year when we held our pre-season training sessions. As Porthcawl RFC's youngest team we had a very important job of giving the players their first experience of rugby

and at the same time making it fun.

We had a very strong uptake, with over 20 young players turning up every week. When the season got fully underway last September we had a busy fixture list with games on most Sunday mornings at home and away and in all weather conditions!

We have visited rugby clubs across the Bridgend district and further afield such as Glynneath and Fairwater. The experiences of these games has been invaluable with a fantastic community spirit.

As coaches our main focus is always having fun while developing important skills, we follow the WRU's half a game initiative where all players play at least half a game.

During the season we linked closely with Ospreys in the community and have been lucky enough to have been flag bearers on the pitch in three Ospreys games, two in the Liberty Stadium and more recently at the Principality Stadium – what an amazing experience for the team!

We are really looking forward to taking the players forward as the new Porthcawl RFC under-8s team next season.

We are currently looking to secure some sponsors for our new kit, if anyone is able to support us in any way, please get in touch.

A huge thank you must go to all the parents of our players for supporting them throughout the season!

LOYD ROWE

LIFE MEMBERSHIP BESTOWED ON BRIDGEND LADY BOWLERS



PICTURED on Easter Saturday at Bridgend Municipal Bowling Club are five distinguished members of the ladies section who were made life members for their valued service to the club over many years.

From left to right are Julie Griffiths, Mary Jones, Marion Wright, Lil Martin and Barbara Caldwell. A special welcome was

given to Marion Wright (centre), a founder member of the ladies section that was formed in 1953 - a year after the men's section formed in 1952.

It was a memorable start to this year's outdoor season when the ladies section played against the men's section in a friendly bowls match. The result was an honourable draw.

GC

Pencoed RFC defeat the league champions in fine performance

PENCOED RFC provided a shock at the Recreation Ground in what must be considered as their best win of the season over the newly-crowned champions of Division 2 West Central and Silver Ball finalists, Tondur.

Pencoed started brightly, retaining possession through multiple phases which exhausted the visitors' defensive numbers before flanker Jack Thompson applied the finish: outside half Jake Lloyd added a fine conversion from wide out.

Pencoed soon increased their lead, Dan Watkins winning a turnover around halfway and Lloyd duly obliged from the resultant penalty goal after 10 minutes.

Tondur then began to build through the phases in the home 22 before a solid Ricky Somers tackle overturned possession. Pencoed then stretched their lead, both forwards and backs combining before Somers sent Aaron Halse racing over at the posts. Lloyd converted and Pencoed led 17-0.

The champions' response was immediate, driving a maul to the home line before experienced No 8 Nathan Strong got the touchdown.

Soon after Tondur turned down a point blank range penalty attempt in their efforts to look for a second try, and despite the home side picking up a yellow card at the breakdown, their defence held firm to thwart the visitors, eventually Watkins clearing his lines to the 40-metre mark and Pencoed led 17-5 at the interval.

Tondur took the early second half initiative and centre Josh Tatchell reduced the arrears with a penalty goal. Home scrum half Rhys Clark, who was enjoying a fine match, then made a telling 40-metre break into the Tondur 22 and recycled possession saw full back Rhys Thomas bursting through in the centre position to fend off the final defender and score at the posts; Lloyd converted.

Tondur returned to the attack and only a fine cover tackle from Thompson prevented left wing John Williams from racing clear.

With Tondur threatening, a huge scrum from Pencoed in their own 22 turned

over possession and Thomas cleared to halfway. Tondur came back and lost a gilt-edged opportunity to score, the final pass to right wing Aled Jones going to ground.

Play was now to and fro and the home side picked up a second yellow card and with 16 minutes left on the clock the Pencoed supporters suddenly became nervous watchers.

Tondur were now running everything back at Pencoed but the

home side were sensing an upset and Watkins almost broke clear.

Pencoed then got a foothold in the Tondur 22 and Thomas calmed the Pencoed nerves, slotting a drop goal to lead 27-8.

Tondur were not finished however and a sustained attack saw Tatchell cross halfway out. Lloyd then added a 40 metre penalty goal and despite picking up a third yellow card in the dying moments, Pencoed ran out worthy winners on the day.

In a superb all-round Pencoed team performance several players put their hands up for man of the match with Somers, Thomas and Watkins to the fore, however the all-round game of scrum half Clark deservedly took the accolade.

Pencoed will now look to finish their season on a winning note when they entertain Cwmgor on Tuesday, April 25, kick-off 6.45pm at the Recreation Ground.

TR

MP backs 'Second Transplants' cause



Emma Paine with MP Chris Elmore.

CHRIS ELMORE, MP for Ogmore, recently attended a thank-you event in Parliament hosted by Anthony Nolan, in recognition of his support for the blood cancer charity's successful campaign to fund a lifesaving treatment.

The Ogmore MP backed the 'Defend Second Transplants' campaign after NHS England announced last July it would no longer routinely fund second stem cell transplants for people whose blood cancer or blood disorder relapses. These transplants effect Welsh patients, as most procedures occur over the border.

Mr Elmore said: "I am proud to have played my part to Defend Second Transplants, which ensures blood cancer patients will be offered

potentially lifesaving treatment.

"Speaking to patients and experts at Anthony Nolan brings home just how important funding for second transplants is – thanks to this campaign people with blood cancer and blood disorders, whose disease relapses, have been given another chance of life."

Anthony Nolan's Patient Ambassador Emma Paine also attended. Emma (29) has received two stem cell transplants to treat her myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) and has now recovered and is returning to work.

"Because of my second transplant I'm stronger, I have my freedom back, and I can plan for the future," said Emma.

"Thanks to all the people who took action, and the MPs who supported this campaign, this vital treatment is now an option for the people who need it."

Tondur reach the Silver Ball final!

A defensive performance which was second to none won this Silver Ball semi-final for a Tondur side brimming with confidence after being crowned Division 2 West Central champions.

The Waterwheelers were never fazed against their higher opposition and from the outset took the game to a Treorchy side lacking in ideas.

The first try came from strong forward pressure resulting in captain Hywel Davies grabbing the ball and crawling over to give the underdogs the lead. Josh Tatchell slotted the conversation to give Tondur an early 7-0 advantage.

Treorchy had plenty of possession in that first half but were unable to breach an astute Tondur defence, then towards the end of the first period the Treorchy backs fumbled the ball in their own half, where it was collected by Tondur outside half Paul Smithson before releasing to Tatchell.

He set scrum half Gareth Lindenburn free on a 20-metre break to put wing Matthew Murphy in for a magnificent try, making the half-time score Tondur 12, Treorchy 0.

The second half was almost all Treorchy but it only succeeded in bringing out one of the best defensive performances you will ever see at this

level from a Tondur side.

Playing with their backs to the wall, the Waterwheelers shut their opponents out – even though they had to endure three yellow cards in this hard-hitting encounter.

Garin Daniels did manage to get a try from a pushover scrum for the Zebras, converted by Jorden Lloyd, but it was too little too late for the Zebras, and it's Tondur who deservedly reach the final at Aberavon on May 20.

Head coach Matthew Tatchell was full of praise for his team's effort: "What a performance! There was commitment and enthusiasm in abundance against this Division One team."

"We set our stall out early in the game and never looked back. We dominated the first half, going in at the break winning 12-0, and it was a tremendous defensive effort to keep Treorchy out until three minutes to go, as well as having our own chances to go further ahead."

"Everybody gave their maximum and it's a well-deserved cup final place for the boys. Once again I'm really proud of every one of them, and big thanks to the two buses of noisy supporters."

MIKE SULLY

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Family Notices

HERLIHY

Dorothy May (née Baynham)

Peacefully after a short illness at Llandough Hospital on 13th April 2017, Dorothy, aged 98 years. Beloved wife of the late Wilf, loved sister of John and the late Nancy and Robert.

Dorothy will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at Salem Baptist Church on Wednesday, 26th April at 1.15pm, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery.

VIZARD

Francis John

Peacefully on April 18, at his home in Rhose, Francis, beloved husband of the late Mavis, father of the late Steven and Phillip.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Ffônnon. Funeral Thursday, April 27, service and cremation 11am at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Cancer Research Wales c/o J. James, 11 Ffônnon Road, Rhose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

MOFFAT

Robert 'Rob'

Rob's family are saddened to announce his very sudden and unexpected death on 28th March 2017 at his home in Port Hope, Canada.



Although Rob lived in Canada most of his life, Llantwit was always where his heart was. Rob was a much loved father to Jake, Zac, Dylan and a beloved partner and soul mate to Linda. Son of the late Stanley and Gwyneth, much loved brother of Lindsay, Andrew and the late Alison, sister-in-law Georgie and adored by his many nieces, nephews and Aunt Val.

Although his passing is very sad, he leaves many happy memories with the many friends and family who loved and held him so dearly in their hearts.

Until we meet again RIP xx

WAITE (LLOYD)

Marion

It is announced with great sadness that Marion passed away at Holme Tower, Penarth on 8th April 2017. A very dearly loved daughter, sister, wife, aunt and friend.

A private service will be held at Barry Cemetery. Marion will be resting in the Private Chapel of A.G. Adams Funeralcare, where donations to Marie Curie Hospice may be sent.

SUMNER

Sheila Gwyneth

Passed away on 12th April 2017 in Y Bwthyn Newydd, Bridgend, Sheila of St Marie Street. Beloved wife of the late Reg, much loved mother of Ann and David. Treasured grandmother of Caroline, Julia, Philip and great grandmother of James, Oliver, Samuel, Megan and Martha. Loving sister to Jacqui, Ann and the late Joyce.

Sheila will be loved and missed by her family and friends, and will be resting in the D.H. Wilde Chapel of Rest, Mawdlam, North Cornelly until her funeral on 27th April 2017. Service in St Mary's Church, Nolton at 12.45pm, followed by cremation in Coychurch Crematorium at 1.45pm. Flowers to the Chapel of Rest please, or donations to Y Bwthyn Newydd, Bridgend.

Further enquiries to Adrian Oliver, Funeral Director, Bridgend, 01656 665403.

WILLIAMS

Doris Edith

(Née Thompson)

Peacefully on 7th April 2017 at Bellavista Nursing Home, Doris, aged 89 years, formerly of Cartref Porthcwi and Princes Street. Beloved wife of the late Dennis, loved sister of the late Billy, Albert, Evelyn and twin sister Dora, loving aunt to all her nieces and nephews.

Doris will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at Salem Baptist Church on Monday, 24th April at 1.15pm followed by interment at Barry Cemetery. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, for Marie Curie will be collected on the day.

KELLY

Margaret Lane (née Davies)

Peacefully on Wednesday, April 12th at the Manor House, St Hilary. Dearly loved wife of Vivian and mother to Richard and Deborah. Former teacher of English and History at Llantwit Major Comprehensive School.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Ffônnon. Funeral service at St Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major at 2pm on Monday, April 24th, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium. No flowers by request but donations in lieu to Dementia UK c/o J. James, 11 Ffônnon Road, Rhose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

Acknowledgments

VENTON

Tom

The family of the late Tom Venton wish to thank all who attended Tom's funeral service and for the many cards and messages received.

Special thanks to the staff at A.G. Adams Funeralcare for their professionalism, Canon Pat O'Gorman for conducting the service, Court Road Surgery, the district nurses and Park Row Carers.

Many thanks for the kind donations received in respect of Dementia UK.

PIDDUCK

Alfred (Alf)

Jill, Gareth, Bethan and Dewi wish to thank everyone for their kindness and condolences, expressed in so many ways, following Alf's passing on 21st March. Many thanks also to all who gave Alf invaluable help and support, especially in the last 12 months.

Special thanks to the Rev. Canon Peter Cox, Vicar of All Saints' Penarth and the Rev Sandra Birdsall, Curate. Thanks also go to Messrs James Summers for their professional services at this difficult time.

A very special man has gone, but his love of life has left us all with some lovely memories.

In Memory

SIM

James (Ginger)

23 April 2010

Another day, another year, how we wish you were still here.

You're thought about with pride son, with each mention of your name.

Death cannot change a single thing, the love will still remain.

Remembering you is easy, we do it everyday.

All our memories of you that will never go away.

Love and miss you, Mum, Dad and family xxx

LEWIS MCGHAN

Birthday memories of a much loved son, brother, uncle and devoted Daddy to Darcie. Remembering you today, Lewis, on your 31st birthday.

To lose someone so special is really hard to bear, it hardly seems believable that you're no longer here.

You left us far too early, before your time it seems; But we all know within our hearts you had fulfilled your dreams.

You always lived life to the full, but ours won't be the same, each day we're challenged with the grief when we speak or hear your name.

We will make a birthday wish today to the angels up above, to place a kiss upon your cheek and send you all our love xxx

Love and missed forever, you are never more than a thought away.

Love Mum, Dad, Marcus, Kirsty, Fraser and families.

I love and miss you so much Daddy.

Love Darcie.

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Lorraine Munro (née Austin)

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Happy 65th Birthday Donald Creed

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Lots of love, Angela and all your family and friends xxx



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Information via Figures correct as of April 2017

'Candidate can't have forced council to act on chosen issues'

I AM not affiliated to any political party. However, I am fed up with the worst kind of 'would be' politicians running misleading campaigns, and as a Dyfan resident, I will not be voting for either of the Conservatives in the elections in May.

Vincent Bailey has only had a Vale address this year, appearing on the Vale's register of electors for the first time in March 2017.

After living in the Vale for just a matter of weeks, does anybody in their right mind believe that this person is so powerful he can force the council to act on his chosen issues, as he has tried to tell us in the press and his newsletters?

I raised the issue of bins at White Farm Park with Coun Anthony Powell in February; it was he who successfully had temporary bins installed and he kindly provided me with copies of his email correspondence with Mr Punter who is a director on the council.

Mr Punter responded to Coun Powell on March 2 informing him that the bins were being replaced on

March 3. Well done Coun Powell.

The Conservatives ably assisted by Alun Cairns, would have us believe that it is down to their efforts.

Their latest newsletter pushed through my letterbox deliberately misleads over the emotive issue of the Biomass plant when it states: 'Sadly, Coun Anthony Powell did not vote against.'

What they did not say was that Coun Powell did not vote for it but abstained. Isn't it even more sad that every Conservative councillor present at that planning meeting supported the Biomass project and voted in favour of the Biomass application. Funny how the Conservatives forgot to mention that.

I do not think that they are the right people to represent us in the Vale. Do they think that Dyfan Ward residents are stupid?

Paul Watkins, Barry

Vincent Bailey, Dyfan Candidate for the Conservatives responded:

Dyfan residents deserve hardworking, energetic

and committed councillors representing them, and since Leighton and I were selected as candidates last year we have proven that we are willing to go the extra mile for the area.

There is no question that our efforts in conjunction with Alun Cairns to highlight issues around White Farm have helped to secure speedy improvements – from the installation of dog bins in the nearby park, to additional signage in parts of the estate. Our letters to the council and to the papers pressured the council to take action.

The same applies to our efforts in Highlight Park, which have led the council to undertake a survey of speeding issues on Lakin Drive.

On the incinerator, we are clear: we have long opposed it. It is regrettable that councillors of various parties voted for it. However, there was a Barry councillor in that meeting: Anthony Powell. Instead of opposing the incinerator, he abstained. He then voted against refusing planning permission. Dyfan residents elect people to take decisions and defend their interests – not to sit on the fence.

Secretary of State in training for London Marathon



Alun Cairns MP training at Barry Park Run with the BBC's David Cornock

VALE MP and Secretary of State for Wales Alun Cairns will be running his sixth London Marathon on April 23.

This year, Mr Cairns will be running the 26.2 mile course to fundraise for two charities, 'Heads Together' and the Vale branch of Age Connects, including the Friends and Neighbours group.

The total sum raised will be split equally and presented to the charities by the Vale MP later in the year.

Mr Cairns took the opportunity to run the Barry Island Park Run as training for the forthcoming marathon.

Completing the 5km course in 21.49 minutes, he commented: "I could not ask for a better way to set myself up for next Sunday than a run with the picturesque view of Barry Island."

"I have been overwhelmed by the support shown to me in the run up to this weekend's marathon. Not only by family, constituents and friends, but also those individuals whose lives have been touched by these two fantastic charities."

If you would like to donate to Mr Cairns' fundraising, you can do so on his Virgin Money Giving web page: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AlunCairns>

Two older pooches looking for a home



SIX-year-old Lowmo and seven-year-old Rosie are boxers, and the best of friends who are looking for a home together.

Lowmo is a smart boy who will do anything for a tasty treat. He is a lovable pooch who enjoys nothing more than going for a good walk.

Rosie can be a little nervous when it comes to meeting new people, but her furry friend Lowmo helps boost her confidence.

Because of her sensitive nature, Rosie will require new owners to come to the Dogs Trust Bridgend centre for multiple visits so she can build up a bond and get to know them; once she does, she's an affectionate girl who loves company.

Rosie and Lowmo are dogs who love playing with their toys and having a good cuddle – definitely a pair for any Boxer fans out there. They are looking for a quiet home and can live with children over the age of eight.

To find out more, visit the website [Dogs Trust Bridgend](http://DogsTrustBridgend.org) or you can always give us a call on 01656 725219.

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

(Y RHODFA (RHAN) GLANNAU'R BARRI (CAU FORDD) (DROS DRO) 2017

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffordd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, yn bwriadu, o fewn dim llai na saith diwrnod o ddyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn, wneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn gwneud yr hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod:-

ATODLEN 1

1. Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi neu'n caniatáu i gerbyd modur deithio yn y lleoliad a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad Cau Y Rhodfa, Glanau'r Barri o'r ffordd bengaead fwyaf gorllewinol sef cyfeirnod grid 311552 167553 i gyfeiriad y dwyrain at y gyffordd, sef cyfeiriad grid 311693 167569, i'r gorllewin o'r eiddo a adnabyddir fel Thornley House. Pellter o tua 145m.

Rheswm I alluogi gwneud gwaith adeiladu'n ddiogel wrth ymyl y briffordd.

Hyd O 08.00 am ar 2 ddydd Mai 2017 am ddim mwy na 18 mis

Llwybr Arall Gan mai ffordd bengaead yw hon ni ellir cynnig dargyfeiriad.

DS: Sicrhair mynediad i gerddwyr bob amser ar hyd y droedffordd ddeheuol.

Dyddiedig 20 Ebrill 2017.

M. E. Punter, Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Yr Alpau, Gwenfö. CF5 6AA.



THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

(Y RHODFA (PART) BARRY WATERFRONT (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2017

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:-

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location Y Rhodfa, Barry Waterfront closed from its westernmost cul-de-sac end at grid 311552 167553 in an easterly direction to the junction at grid 311693 167569 to the west of a property known as Thornley House. A distance of approximately 145m.

Reason To allow for building work to safely take place adjacent to the highway.

Duration From 08.00hrs on Tuesday 2nd May 2017 for a maximum period of 18 months

Alt. Route As this road is a cul-de-sac no diversion can be provided.

NB: Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times along the southern footway.

Dated this 20th day of April 2017.

M. E. Punter, Director of Environment & Housing Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.



CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG GORCHYMYN CAU FORDD DROS DRO, ADUAN 16A DEDDF RHEOLEIDDIO TRAFFIG FORDD 1984

STATION APPROACH, PENARTH DIGWYDDIAD PICNIC PENARTH

SADWRN 29 EBRILL 2016

HYSBYSIR DRWY HYN fod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wedi llunio gorchymyn o dan Adran 16A o Ddeddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffordd 1984 fel isod:-

YN GYMAINT Â, yn ystod oriau penodol o'r dydd ar y dyddiad a nodir yng nghlofn 1 o'r Atodiad sydd ynghlwm, bydd y strydoedd neu ran ohonynt a restrir yng nghlofn 2 o'r cyfryw Atodiad yn cael eu defnyddio i gynnal y digwyddiad perthnasol a nodir yn adran 16(A)(1) o Ddeddf Rheoleiddio Traffig 1984, ac mae'r Cyngor, yn unol â'r bwerau a roddir iddo o dan Adran 16A o Ddeddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffordd 1984 **DRWY HYN YN GORCHYMYN AC YN RHOI CYFARWYDDYD**, er mwyn caniatáu cynnal y digwyddiad a galluogi i aelodau'r cyhoedd wylu'r cyfryw ddigwyddiad, ac i ostwng yr amhariad ar y traffig sy'n debygol o gael ei achosi gan y digwyddiad, gweithredir y rheoliad isod:-

BOD, oni chaniateir fel arall gan y gorchymyn, y strydoedd a enwir neu rannau ohonynt ar gau i gerbydau, yn cynnwys beiciau pedal ond **ac eithrio Cerbydau'r Gwasanaethau Brys**, rhwng yr oriau a nodir yng nghlofn 3 yr atodiad sydd ynghlwm. Y gosb am beidio â chydymffurfio â'r rheoliad yw dirwy heb fod yn fwy na £1,000.00.

Schedule

| Colofn 1 | Colofn 2 | Colofn 3 |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Gwener 28 Ebrill 2017 tan Sul 30 Ebrill 2017 | Station Approach, Penarth, o'r pwynt ger Rhif 1 Station Approach i ddiwedd ei bengaead. Ni fydd Gwryiad yn ei le | O 6.00pm dydd Gwener 28 Ebrill tan 9.00pm nos Sul 30 Ebrill |

Caniateir mynediad i gerbydau brys drwy ffordd mynediad argyfwng penodedig.

Bydd mynediad i gerddwyr bob amser.

Dyddiedig y 20 diwrnod o fis Ebrill 2017

M. E. Punter Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai Cyngor Bro Morgannwg Yr Alpau, Gwenfö CF5 6AA



THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE ORDER, SECTION 16A ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

STATION APPROACH, PENARTH PENARTH PICNIC EVENT

SATURDAY 29th APRIL 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Vale of Glamorgan Council have made an order under Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as follows:-

WHEREAS during certain hours of the days and dates specified in column 1 of the Schedule hereto the streets or part thereof listed in column 2 of the said Schedule will be used for the holding of a relevant event as described in Section 16(A)(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the Council, pursuant to the powers conferred by Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 do **HEREBY ORDER AND DIRECT** in order to facilitate the holding of the event, enable members of the public to watch the said event and to reduce the disruption to traffic likely to be caused by the event the following regulation shall be observed:-

THAT, except as provided by the order, the said streets or parts thereof shall be closed to all vehicular traffic including pedal cycles **with the exception of Emergency Services Vehicles** between the hours specified in column 3 of the said schedule. The penalty for infringement of the said regulation is a fine not exceeding £1000.00

Schedule

| Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Friday 28th April 2017 To Sunday 30th April 2017 | Station Approach Penarth, from a point adjacent to No 1 Station Approach to its cul-de-sac end. No Diversion will be in place | From 6.00pm on Friday 28th April Until 9.00pm on Sunday 30th April |

Access for emergency vehicles will be maintained via a defined emergency access route

Pedestrian access shall be maintained at all times.

Dated this 20th day of April 2017

M. E. Punter Director of Environment & Housing Vale of Glamorgan Council The Alps Wenvoe CF5 6AA



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 Sunday: 10am - 12pm
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End of the season approaches for Barry chess club

SINCE my last report a couple of weeks ago the Barry Chess Club has played a number of matches - I shall now review each individual division.

In Division 1 the Barry Bosons have been without a match for two weeks. We remain in fourth place however we are not immune from relegation.

We have two games left to play and need 2.5 points to secure our place at the top table. Surely this will not be beyond us!

In Division 2 the Barry Camelots have played two games. We played St John's College, returning home with a narrow victory courtesy of wins by Sam Jukes, Stephen Bonutto and Tom Cooke.

We then had a home match against North Cardiff Titans. We surprisingly lost this game by 3-2 with our points coming from wins by Tom Cooke and John

Stephenson. The result was not enough to save the Titans who are now relegated from this division with two matches left to play.

In fact the relegation issues have been resolved already and the Camelots know they will be in Division 2 next season.

The Barry Quarks in Division 3 had an excellent 4-1 victory over the Penarth Piers.

The points came from draws on the top two boards from John Stephenson and John Ryles with wins by Sam White, Peter Watkins and John Rees in his debut match in this division.

With two matches remaining we currently sit in fifth position. It is all still to play for as we are only 3-5 points behind the Crowns in third place.

We are also mathematically not secure either although with 41.5 points we would be unfortunate to be relegated.

In division 4 there was not a lot of excitement in our two matches. Both of them ended in 4.5-0.5 defeats. The only modicum of excitement came when we picked up our final player at Culverhouse Cross on our visit to Cardiff.

Team driver Ray Denyer decided to drive away before Dave Mahoney had squeezed into the back seat. His left foot was trailing along the road. We did stop to let him get in properly eventually!

For the Gambits the season started so brightly but without a win this year we have dropped down to sixth place in the league table and could drop even further unless we can get a result in our final game.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at <http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com>.

PHIL JONES

New green is opened at the Barry Athletic Bowls Club



BARRY Athletic's 4Wood green was officially opened last weekend by a host of world stars from the world of bowls, boxing and politics.

World and Commonwealth star Ellen Falkner with Jamie and Natalie Chestney entertained the guests with a display of skills with their brightly coloured Aero Bowls, before the green was officially opened by the Secretary of State for Wales, Alun Cairns, and Lee Selby, current World IBF title holder.

Alun Cairns spoke positively about the work that had been done at the club over the winter and how he valued the work that Barry Athletic were doing to engage with the local schools to implement a junior development programme.

Ellen Falkner, CEO of Aero Bowls, also launched the new Aero Bowls Academy a specific youth development programme for 11-16-year-old bowlers which will be held on the greens this summer at Barry Athletic.

Lee Selby performed the unveiling of the new scoreboard at the 4Wood Green before he and Alun, under the watchful eye of Ellen Falkner, competed against each other in a one end shoot out, with Alun narrowly coming out on top.

All members and guests then retired to the pavilion for a complimentary buffet generously contributed by Jim Morgan, a Commonwealth Gold medallist himself, and a life member of the club.

The club now looks forward to a full competitive season of bowls starting with a fixture against neighbours Penarth Windsor this Saturday.

The club will also be providing taster sessions and coaching for any new members during the week.

New golf season kicks off for Brynhill ladies!



THE new ladies golfing season kicked off at Brynhill Golf Club on Tuesday, April 4 with a Rabbits and Tigers Stableford Foursomes competition over 18 holes.

It was won by Gemma Evans and Lisa Taylor with an impressive score of 34 points. Runners-up were Linda Hewlett and Sue Holland with 30 points.

The annual Easter Egg Stableford Competition took place on Tuesday, April 11 with 34 ladies taking part.

It was the first singles

18 hole competition of the season but luckily the sun shone and despite a brisk wind whipping up in the afternoon, all ladies enjoyed themselves.

The results were very close and after a countback, Liz Taylor won the coveted Easter Egg with 34 points over the back nine from Claire Downton.

Please contact the office manager, Nicky Duval, on 01446 720277 if you are interested in joining the ladies' section.

Pictured above is Liz Taylor (left) receiving her prize from the ladies' captain, Olwen Thomas.

JK

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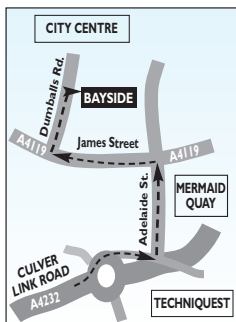
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RB

Stud farm plays host to an engrossing point-to-point meeting

THERE were doubles for James Bowen and Bradley Gibbs at the Llangeinor & Pentyrch Hunt Steeplechases at the Dunraven Stud, Pyle near Bridgend where a large crowd were treated to seven point-to-point races and three pony races.

Sixteen-year-old James Bowen's double was initiated when his mother's Flying Eagle caught the Paul Hamer trained Equity Swap, who had tried to make every post a winning one, right on the line to gain a neck verdict.

The race lost a lot of its interest for backers of the odds-on King Massini who had unshipped Isabel Williams at the 11th fence.

The second leg of Bowen's double came when Sir Du Bearn, who had also been entered for the Lady Dudley Cup, benefited from the last fence fall of David Brace's Colorado Doc who had made every yard of the running under Bradley Gibbs and who would have been on a three-timer had the six-year-old son of Dr Massini negotiated the obstacle. "He chested the fence and flung me in the air," said his disappointed rider.

James Bowen said: "We came here rather than the Worcester meeting as I had a chance of riding two horses rather than the one at Worcester and I don't think that Sir Du Bearn would have won the Lady Dudley Cup."

The first of Gibbs's two winners came when David Brace's Dunraven Doc, who is also by Dr Massini, won the opening young horse maiden race by 12 lengths from the pacemaker.

Tucks Bergin ridden by Lorcan Williams who is enjoying a great season. Dunraven Doc, the only six-year-old in the race - the four others were five-year-olds - could find himself in the line-up for the David Brace sponsored Dunraven Bowl Novices' Hunter Chase at Chepstow on April 28.

It was another David Brace and Dr Massini horse that gave Gibbs his second win in the Members, Subscribers & Farmers Race.

Jumping the last in front, six-year-old Pink Eyed Pedro, the youngest of the five runners, won by four lengths from Tiger Rag ridden by Richard Patrick. The winner's stable companion, Silver Token ridden by Charly Prichard, was a distant third.

Six went to post for the Ladies' Open Race and Keith Pritchard's nine-year-old bay mare Watch The Birdie gave Hannah Lewis her fifth win of the season when, after leading three

fences from home, went on to score by six lengths from the favourite Hold Court ridden by Isabel Williams.

Doctor Braveheart, the early leader ridden by Charly Prichard, was a further eight lengths back in third place. Watch The Birdie, who was in season when pulling up on her first run of the season at the Brecon and Talybont, could

also contest the Dunraven Bowl.

The longest priced winner of the day was 12-1 chance BackOfTheRock which was a 25 lengths winner of the Restricted under Wayne Maskill. Bought in Ireland last year by Dai Rees and trained by his partner Jane Jones, the eight-year-old bay gelding jumped the last alongside David Brace's Bracho which took a tumble.

"I had him beat," said Wayne, who also claimed that his mount had "... jumped like a buck and had loved the ground." The favourite January Don was another faller in this race.

John and Beryl Rees's nine-year-old bay gelding Ruperra Tom made most of the running to win the Open Maiden Race by 15 lengths from the favourite Classic Hit ridden by Richard Patrick. Winning rider, Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft, said: "He was so quick over the fences and jumped really well." Ruperra Tom, the best turned out horse in the race, is trained by former Welsh champion rider Nick Williams at Ogmere on Sea.

BRIAN LEE

Girls' football festival sees over 200 take part

OVER 200 girls took part in the Vale primary girls football festival recently, as football once again demonstrated its increasing popularity amongst young Vale girls.

Jenner Park saw its pitches graced by 14 schools from the Vale, and 10 from Cardiff, as a range of 'non-competitive' matches took place throughout the day.

Organised by the Vale Council's sports and play development team, in partnership with Barry Town United Ladies FC, no scores or results were recorded throughout the matches, as the aim of the day was to create a fun and sociable environment in which the pupils could develop their skills and enjoy the games.

The organisers

commented on how they have seen the number of girls participating in football rise over the last academic year, something that they have been trying to achieve with other schemes offered to young girls across the Vale.

With Barry Town United Ladies' chairman already saying that an encouraging number of players have been in touch since hosting their largest school event to date, the number of girls taking part in football looks set to rise even more.

For more information on sport in the Vale, visit www.valeofglam.org.uk/en/enjoying/g/Sports-and-Play/Sports-and-Play.aspx.



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15 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi Dynamique Media Nav 5-Dr In silver, 39,000 miles, free road tax**REDUCED TO £7,995**

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10 CHEVROLET Cruze 1.8 LT In electric blue, 57,000 miles saloon**£3,995**

60 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Ecoflex Energy 3-Dr In red, 52,000 miles, one owner**£3,995**

60 CITROEN C1 VTR+ 5-Dr In red, 46,000 miles, low insurance and road tax**£3,995**

09 SEAT Ibiza 1.2S 3-Dr In nayara blue, 55,000 miles, low insurance**£3,995**

56 MINI One Convertible In silver, 85,000 miles with pepper pack, a/c, heated seats etc**£3,995**

58 TOTOYA Yaris 1.3 TR 5-Dr In red, 60,000 miles, very nice example**£3,795**

11 RENAULT Clio 1.5 Diesel Expression 3-Dr In met-blue, 53,000 miles, £20 road tax**£3,695**

10 HYUNDAI i10 Comfort 1.2 5-Dr In silver, 57,000 miles, £30 road tax**£3,495**

56 MINI 1.6 '7 Edition' In black with check roof, 80,000 miles, very nice example**£2,995**

57 RENAULT Megane 1.5 DCi Dynamique 5-Dr In silver, 49,000 miles, diesel hatch**£2,695**

06 SUZUKI Swift 1.5 GLX 5-Dr In electric blue, 79,000 mile hatch at**£2,695**



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New book by GEM's horse racing expert has sold out!

GEM columnist Brian Lee was delighted to hear from his publisher Ashley Drake of St David's Press that his recent book *Racing Rogues - The Scams, Scandals and Gambles of Horse Racing in Wales* has completely sold out and has had another print run.

Brian, who has been contributing to the pages of the Glamorgan GEM for many years, said: "The book has had some great reviews and Andrew King of the Racing Post described it as 'a cracking read which lifts the lid on notorious Welsh racing gambles'."

Chris Pitt of BOS Magazine wrote: "There is nobody more well-versed in the history of horseracing in Wales than Brian Lee, who has worked as a racing correspondent for some 50 years," and goes on to say: "With Lee being the well-respected doyen of point-to-point correspondents, there is no-one better qualified to relate the tales."

John Scanlan of the Kingsley Klarion wrote: "This book is very easy to read. The stories are told in a punchy and informative fashion," and goes on to say that "... It's a cracking good read -

especially for readers with a Welsh connection."

Brian, aged 80, said: "Some of the characters who appear in the pages of this little book of mine hail from the Vale, which is understandable as the area is big on horse racing."

Mr Lee added: "My publisher would like me to compile another book on Welsh horse racing in general, including point-to-point and flapping, so if there is anyone with stories and photographs, press cuttings, etc, I would be pleased to hear from them."

"My e-mail address is brianlee4@virginmedia.com or telephone 02920 736438."

TIM'S TOWCESTER WINNER

Aberthin's Tim Vaughan landed the opening Handicap Hurdle at Towcester last Thursday with his nine-year-old Honey Pound which won by a neck from Lambeau Field in an exciting finish.

Honey Pound, which carried joint top weight of 11st 12lbs, was a 4-1 chance and was ridden by 3lb claimer Alan Johns, who has had a cracking season.

LONG TRIP PAYS OFF
Aberthin's Tim Vaughan's course and distance winner

Officer Hoolihan made the long trip to Carlisle on Saturday and, running for the first time in 184 days, was a two lengths winner of the opening TotePlacePot Novices' Hurdle under stable jockey Alan Johns. But backers of the seven-year-old wouldn't have made much money as it was returned the 2-5 favourite.

JANUARY DON
I have been rightly taken to task for not mentioning January Don in my recent report of the Ystrad Taf Fechan meeting at Ystradowen.

For the record, owned and trained by Bridgend builder Roger Willcox and ridden by the promising Ben Jones, son of former Welsh champion rider Dai Jones, January Don won the young horse open maiden race after jumping well throughout the two-and-a-half miles to come home 12 lengths clear of Ollies Boy ridden by Bradley Gibbs.

The only other runner Stellar Massini, partnered by Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft, was a further five lengths away in third and last place. The race was a qualifier for the Goffs Spring Sales Point-To-Point Bumper (National Hunt flat race).

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Barrivale Bridge Club results



THE 30th Barrivale AGM was held on April 11, and three members of the committee retired, among them Judith Owen who has served the club as treasurer for the last 20 years (pictured above).

Following the AGM the club members enjoyed a team event with a break for the usual excellent food and wine prepared by the new chairman, Mick Green.

The team event was won by Mark Roderick, Jenny Vaughan, Linda Houston and June Reeves (pictured above right) - IMPS 40, and in second and third place respectively were Mike Close, Dave Thomas, Kay Dyer and Sean MacDougall - IMPS 24, and Irene Thomas, Peter Millar, Celia and Huw Thomas - IMPS 8.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale Bridge Club and a partner may be arranged, if required.

If you would like to join us, telephone 01446 418380, 01446 733425 or 01446 735592, or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Alternatively players, inexperienced or new, may attend on Fridays at 10am at the same address.

LH



The Barry and District League tables and results

CRIB DIVISION 1:

Cadoxton Cons 9, Liberals 6; Wyndham Cons 7, Moors Boys 8; West End Runaways 6, Rhosoe Social 9.

League table: Rhosoe Social 180, Liberals 177, Moors Boys 164, Wyndham Cons 162, West End Runaways 151, West End 146, Cadoxton Cons 145.

SKITTLES DIVISION 1:

Rugby Club 4, Sea View B 3; Rhosoe Social A 2, Allsorts 5; Rhoosters 6, Liberals C 1; Cambrian Flyers 6, Slammers 1; Barries Boys 1.5, King William XII 5.5; Liberals A 5, Rhosoe Social C 2; West End C 6, West End D 1.

League table: West End C 107, West End D 95, Sea View B 93, King William XII 91, Allsorts 87, Rhoosters 83, Rugby Club 79.5, Barries Boys 74.5, Rhosoe Social C 74.5, Rhosoe Social B 72.5, Slammers 72.5, Liberals C 67.5, Cambrian Flyers

63, Rhosoe Social A 62, Liberals A 54.

SNOOKER DIVISION 1:

Rhosoe Social C 3, Penarth Cons A 2; Services Social B 3, Wyndham Cons A 2; Cadoxton Cons B 1, Savoy A 4; Cadoxton Cons Z 2, West End C 3; Penarth Cons B 3, Rhosoe Social B 2.

League table: Harbour B 97, Savoy A 96, Cadoxton Cons Z 73, Wyndham Cons A 63, West End C 60, Cadoxton Cons B 59, Penarth Cons A 51, Rhosoe Social B 51, Penarth Cons B 42, Services Social B 39, Rhosoe Social C 39.

SNOOKER DIVISION 2:

Sully Sports A 4, Harbour A 1; Liberators 2, Market Street B 3; Savoy B 4, Wyndham Cons C 1; Market Street C 3, Cadoxton Cons A 2; West End A 1, West End B 4.

League table: Savoy B 78, Liberators 76, Market Street B 72, Wyndham Cons C 69, Cadoxton Cons A 64, Harbour A 63, Market Street C 60, West End B 54, Sully Sports A 46, Wyndham Cons D 44, West End A 44 (* = points deducted).

All league and cup fixtures and results at www.barryleagues.co.uk and on Facebook - search for 'barry leagues'.

JW

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All square as Athletic draw with Kenfig Hill



ABOVE: Jonathon Howard crosses for a try, and RIGHT: Stuart Floyd-Ellis is tackled.
ALL PICTURES BY GLENNSPORTS



A strangely subdued Bridgend Athletic pack finally came to life at the Brewy Field in the final quarter of the game when trailing 25-10 to provide their speedy back division with the possession to cross for three late tries to draw 25-25 with neighbours Kenfig Hill.

Had any of these tries or two last minute penalties been converted then instead of three points for a bonus try

draw, the Athletic would have recorded an unlikely five point win.

Kenfig Hill seemed more motivated and organised in the first hour. Their pack was on top in both the scrum and lineout and retained possession, while the Athletic were disjointed and made far too many handling errors in good playing conditions.

Kenfig Hill started brightly and were six points ahead after only five minutes through two Lloyd Giles penalties. The Athletic responded when wing Dan Howells ran out of defence and linked with his opposite

wing Mike Powell who released scrum half Dan James.

James chipped over the full back and won the race to touch down wide out. This made him the Athletic's leading try scorer this season with eight, and was his third try this season against the Mules.

Leading points scorer, outside half Luke Bevan, added the conversion.

This was as good as it got for the Athletic in the first half as Kenfig Hill took control. Mules scrum half Tom Briggs broke blind from a scrum to cross for a try converted by Giles.

Athletic lock Jonathon Stoker was sin binned for a deliberate knock on to stop a passing move. Kenfig Hill kicked the penalty to the corner and a succession of drives from the line out saw flanker Scott Waller cross for the Mules' second try also converted by Giles. This gave the visitors a deserved 20-7 half-time lead.

Within two minutes of the second half Kenfig Hill broke along the touchline from halfway. A kick ahead eluded the Athletic defence for wing

Lewis Morgan to touch down in the corner. A Luke Bevan penalty reduced his side's deficit to 25-10.

With 15 minutes remaining the Athletic pack suddenly came to life. They started driving through the middle with locks Griff Davies and Jonathon Stoker making good yardage and the back row of Ben Howe, Jonathon Howard and Stuart Edbrook also driving forward.

This provided possession over the gain line. Centre Aled Thomas kept the momentum going with a quick tap penalty 30 metres out and passed to supporting flanker Jon Howard who stepped inside three players to cross for an unconverted try.

Kenfig Hill tried a long-range penalty which just went wide and was collected behind the try line by Athletic full back Stuart Floyd-Ellis.

Floyd-Ellis elected to run and beat several players before being halted on the Mules 10 metre line. The ball was quickly recycled and centre Tom Jenkins released wing Dan Howells to cross for his

seventh try of the season.

From the restart the Athletic then ran back at the Mules from their own 22. The ball reached wing Mike Powell whose pace saw him level the scores at 25-25 with the Athletic's fourth try earning them a bonus point try.

The final minutes saw the Athletic throw everything at Kenfig Hill, who also saw a player yellow carded for deliberately knocking the ball forward to prevent a passing move.

Regrettably youngster Bevan's normally reliable boot sent two last minute penalties wide of the upright resulting in the Athletics' first drawn game this season.

The Athletic complete the season this Saturday, April 22, at Newbridge Fields, when they host likely league winners Trebanos, who ominously despatched Ammanford 90-7 in their last fixture.

The club would like to thank Mr Simon Apsee of J.H. Apsee & Sons for once again sponsoring an Athletic league game.

AB

Bridgend Bridge Club news

THE results for recent event Bridgend Bridge Club are:

Wednesday, April 12: First, Liam Sheridan and John Beard; Second, Irene Thomas and Graham Jones; Third, Jenny Vaughan and Debbie Lea. The winners on Handicap were Irene Thomas and Graham Jones.

Thursday, April 13: First, Eileen Mahoney and Geoff Barnett; Second, Gareth Jenkins and Mike Williams, Third, Stuart Davies and David Newman. The winners on handicap were Eileen Mahoney and Geoff Barnett.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesdays and Fridays at Noltan

Church Hall. Play is scheduled to start at 7pm, to ensure a prompt start it helps if players arrive 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, again at Noltan Church Hall, there is a gentle bridge session when advice is available on the bidding. While Master Points are awarded it remains a relaxed occasion.

Lessons for beginners take place on Thursday mornings at 11.30am.

For further information about the club please contacting Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661968, John Evans on 01656 880372 or David Newman on 01656 649138.

DN



Jake Lewis scores for Tondy.
ALL PICTURES BY GARETH ANTHONY

Much-changed Tondy slip to Pencoed defeat



Gareth Lindenburn looks for space.



Aled Jones.

AFTER a massive performance in the Silver Ball semi-final in midweek (see match report on page 29 TBC), it was little wonder that a much-changed Tondy side found it difficult to reach the level that they've been hitting all season.

On the other hand they came up against a Pencoed side intent on inflicting a rare defeat on the champions.

It only took three minutes for the home side to open their account with Jack Thompson sailing over for the first try, Jake Lloyd landed the conversation to put Pencoed into an early 7-0 lead.

Lloyd then slotted a penalty before second row Aaron Haise crossed for his side's second try,

again converted by Lloyd.

Tondy got themselves on the scoreboard through a Lloyd Tucker try midway through the half and that's how it stayed until the break.

The second half started with an early penalty from Josh Tatchell for the visitors before another great try scored by centre Rhys Thomas for Pencoed, converted by the reliable Lloyd.

The outside half then slotted a dropped goal to make it 27-8 moving

into the last five minutes, before hooker Jake Lewis grabbed a consolation try for the champions.

The final minute saw Lloyd land another penalty to give Pencoed a well-deserved win on the day.

Tondy travel to Cwmgors for their final league game a week on Saturday, before the little matter of a Silver Ball final on May 20 to round off a memorable season for the Waterwheelers.

MIKE SULLY

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

BRIDGEND golfer Lydia Hall tied for 14th place in the Lalla Meryem Cup tournament in Morocco after leading the field at the halfway stage.

The 29-year-old shot opening rounds of 69 and 68 – seven under par – to lead the field by two shots.

A good start to the third round saw her extend her lead to four shots, but then her form started unravelling.

A run of five holes produced three bogeys and one double bogey and saw her finish with a 74 – still good enough for second place just one shot off the lead going into the final round on Sunday.

But Lydia wasn't able to recapture her form of the first two rounds and a fourth round 78 saw her tumble outside the top 10.

She finished with a one-over-par total of 289 – nine shots behind the Czech winner – winning a cheque for €7,785.

She turned



professional in 2007 and plays on the Ladies' European Tour. Her only tour win so far came when she won the ISPS Handa Ladies' British Masters in 2012.

Lydia, from Pencoed, is the daughter of Wayne Hall, a former rugby player who played for Wales in 1988.

She is ranked 310th in the world, has played in 135 tournaments and won €332,000 in prize money.

Lydia says her greatest influence in golf has been John Peters, her coach at Southerndown Golf Club.

MICHAEL PROSSER